PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS

WHAT'S INSIDE

NEWS /A2
Palace says there'll be good news on Labor Day

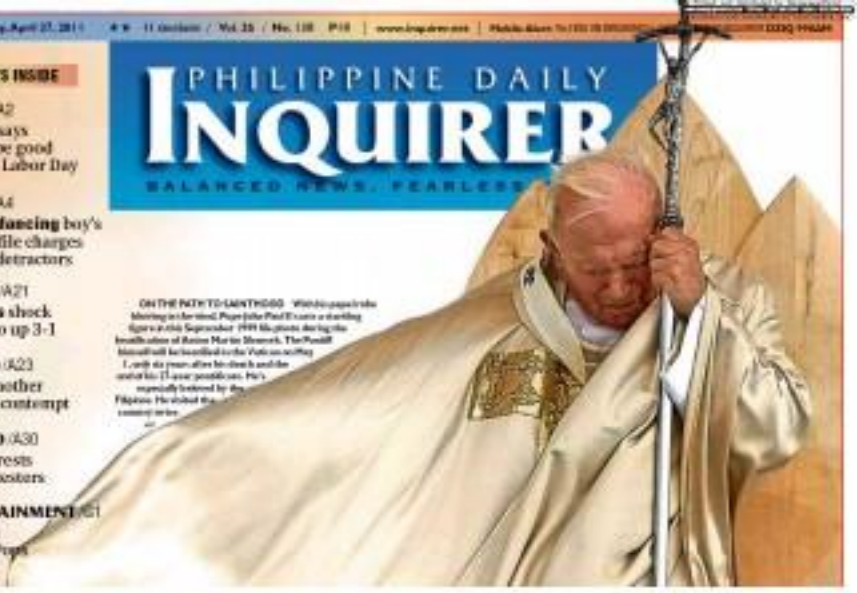
NEWS /A4
Macho dancing boy's parents file charges against detractors

SPORTS /A21
Grizzlies shock Spurs, go up 3-1

METRO /A23
Imelda's mother cited for contempt

WORLD /A30
Syria arrests 500 protesters

ENTERTAINMENT /C1
No truth to Chiz-Pops rumor



ON THE PATH TO SAINTHOOD Worldwide pageantry marking its farewell, Pope John Paul II casts a startling figure at his September 1999 Mass during the beatification of Sister Maria Sinaseb. The Pontiff himself will be beatified in the Vatican on May 1, only six years after his death and the earliest for 17-year pontificate. He's especially beloved by the Filipinos. He visited the country twice

GMA's plunder raps based on her notes

ACCUSED #49 Lower Secretary Cuneta files the complaint of plunder against former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo at the Ombudsman's office. Behind the case is Chief Special Action Officer of the Ombudsman, Wendell Barreras-Sulit

'Charge to Owwa,' Arroyo ordered; P550M misused

By Nikko Dizon

FOR ALLEGEDLY dipping her fingers into a cookie jar reserved for overseas Filipino workers, former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as disgusted at least three Malacañang insiders that they helped put together plunder charges that she is now facing.

Former Solicitor General Frank Chavez, executive filed a 23-page complaint claiming that Arroyo, now a Pampanga representative, misused more than P550 million from the Overseas Workers' Welfare Administration (Owwa) from March 2001 to February 2004.

"This was all very well-orchestrated because in all the recommendations made to the respondents, there was always the handwritten notation made by Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo 'OK, charge to Owwa funds.' But the Owwa funds are funds held in trust by the government and they cannot dip their fingers into the cookie jar that exclusively belongs to the overseas Filipino workers," Chavez told reporters.

Chavez and three mid-level officials photocopied the documents for him, which was why all these he had submitted at least for his plunder complaint before Malacañang his office.

MORE PLUNDER, A2-3

It's come to this: Bishop calls RH backers terrorists

By Cherie Te
and Cj Ines
Jaclyn B. Uy
and Christian O. Bordadora

ADVOCATES of the reproductive health (RH) bill are not free, for their activities because the measure could lead to the death of innocents, an official of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) said yesterday.

Cebu Archbishop Jose Palma, CBCP vice president, said condoms and abortion were instrumental in killing the innocent.

The Catholic Church, led by the CBCP, opposes the bill because it believes the measure will allow couples to pass easy access to condoms and other methods of contraception that can cause abortion.

Palma expressed dismay over lawmakers supporting the RH bill, which seeks to provide couples a choice of what family planning methods to use.

Natalegawa repeats that the bill was gaining adherents even from other religious groups. Palma said on July: "I hope that it's in line. If it is, we can only pray."

BISHOP, A14

DENR won't impose mining moratorium

By Kristine L. Alave
in Manila
and Vincent Cabreza
Reporter, The Freeport Leader

THE DIRECTOR of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), an agency under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), yesterday dismissed the call of a Catholic bishop to declare a moratorium on mining in the wake of the Good Friday landslide in Diwalwal, Compostela Valley.

MGB Director Leo Jasareno said stopping all mining activities in the nationwide was a disproportionate reaction to the landslide that killed at least eight persons in the gold-mining community of Diwalwal in Barangay Masara.

DENR, A6

Mining-dependent town hit by evacuation | A6

Comelec taste for solid narra beds hit hard

By Jerome Aning

Johor sultan coming for old time's sake

By Cathy Yamsuan

NOTHING fancy for this royal though the Palace guidance drives a Honda. Sagging wallet, thinking.

An informal call by Sultan Ibrahim Ismail of Malaysia on Peter Arthur Cruz, interior reserve a friendship that began 30 years ago with a frequent house guest in Boston dressed in dungarees and fondly called "the King."

The President's eldest sister, Maria Elena "Bailey" Cruz, said that in 1981, the unassuming young Malaysian, who was also called "Tun," spent most of his free time hanging around in the square residence in Boston.

The then Crown Prince of Johor "did not act like a future king," said Cruz in a phone interview. "He wasn't like Prince William in the sense that he had entourage around him, and he was pleased not to be called 'Your Highness.'"

Proclaimed Sultan of Johor in 2010 after the death of his father the Malaysian was a student

JOHOR, A14

Cops get tip Pilar sis-in-law was housemaid

By Madlen Ramos

ANOTHER puzzle to police investigating the murder on Wike Pilapil is that her maiming woman, initially worked as a housemaid rather supposedly under repressive jewelry from her employer.

Pilapil's companions on the night the beauty queen turned actress was stabbed repeatedly and killed in dead actually owned the vehicle she was driving—and paid nearly half a million pesos for it in cold cash.

COPS, A19

Kate won't have Di's problems

LONDON—Kate Middleton will avoid the problems experienced by Princess Diana when she married into a royal family that has changed greatly in 30 years, leading royal author Andrew Morton says.

Morton said here the deep unhappiness in Diana's marriage to Prince Charles with his 1992 book "Diana: Her True Story" which he later revealed had been written from tapes that the princess had recorded.

He says little danger that soon Kate-mania at Westminster Abbey on Friday, she will experience the loveless marriage and the cold shoulder from the royals that Diana suffered once her relationship with Charles soured.

"Kate is so much older than

KATE, A14

Brits believe UK further aft... thanks to royal family | A14

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

2 P 2D
10 31
18 3
19 31

QUEZPHIL
3 7 2
1 5 0
3 9 7

SIX DIGIT
8 9 0 0 8 2

DAILY LOTTO 6/49 MID
8 19 25 34 35 39
₱3,000,000.00

SUPER LOTTO 6/49
3 16 36 40 45 48
₱35,374,550.40

Palace: Good news on Labor Day

By Christine O. Avendaño, Philip C. Tubeza and Jeannette I. Andrade

THERE will be "good news" for workers on Labor Day, Malacañang said yesterday.

According to presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda, the government's economic team will be firming up today the recommendations it would be making to President Aquino on measures the government could undertake to help the people, including workers, cope with the high oil prices.

Lacierda acknowledged that some of the measures had already been announced, like the ₱450-million fuel assistance program, or the "Pantawid Pasada" for transport and jeepney drivers, which will start on May 2, the day after Labor Day.

Under the program, tricycle and jeepney operators will be given a fuel subsidy for one month, after which the government will review whether it should be continued.

Malacañang also earlier said the economic team was looking into the possibility of extending the fuel subsidy to farmers and fisherfolk, who are also heavy users of fuel.

Lacierda told a Palace briefing that one of the options being considered was a wage increase, citing what Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo recently said that "there is a certain level [where] the economy can afford a wage hike."

"But if it's considered, it will be up to the [regional] wage boards to decide at what level the wage hike [will be]," Lacierda said.

The wage board for Metro Manila is expected to convene on May 2.

Malacañang earlier rejected a proposal to grant workers a ₱1,000 legislated daily wage hike, saying it would cause inflation.

Lacierda, meanwhile, said the economic managers were not too keen on the proposed Fuel Mr. Aquino consider imposing price controls as part of the workers' package of benefits for Labor Day.

"There is some hesitation with respect to imposing price controls for fuel since it will, understanding, it will cause temporary shortages," he said, stressing that the government was closely monitoring the prices of commodities, including the prices of rice.

"We're making sure that the prices are reasonable but in terms of price control it is something that we would not do because it would create more problems for us. And that's the reason why we are looking at other options which would not further strain the economy," he said.

Don't just criticize

Meanwhile, Lacierda urged the Left-leaning Bayan Muna to help the government find ways to soften the impact of high oil prices rather than criticize its officials.

Bayan Muna has accused government officials of being the protectors of oil companies because the government supposedly was not going after the collusion by pricing them.

Lacierda said the Department of Energy had already asked the oil firms to explain why they raised their prices beyond the DOE's computations, and that Liturgist groups like Petron were being given information on what basis oil prices go up and down.

"The leftists will always take the most extreme position just to stir the government. All of us are in a crisis, so let's just help each other rather than criticize," Lacierda said.

Small but determined

A small but determined group of about 20 protesters marched upon the gates outside Malacañang yesterday, demanding a P125 across-the-board wage increase.

They had some 50 headed black-and-yellow ribbons to the gates to dramatize their claims, which they said represented how Mr. Aquino was slowly killing the Filipino workers.

The members of Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) and Anakpawis rallied their protest a small victory for workers after they were able to get near Gate 7, some 100 meters from the Jose Chino Bocco (formerly Mendiola) Bridge, and to fix the ribbons to the closed Mendiola protest deterrents.

The protesters ambushed themselves and brandished placards with the words "Salot! (Pest), presyo duhit (Price surges, leave prices)," and a picture of Mr. Aquino in a bull's eye.

Broken promises

They said the President was doing nothing for the poor and accused him of favoring the rich, contrary to the promises he made at his inauguration.

"This is the third time now that we got the shaft in Malacañang," said Nestita Gutchgo, KMU vice chair for women, as the group was stopped by police 15 feet away from Gate 7.

Gutchgo warned that instead of the police pushing back just a few inches of what is to some on May 1 when, she said, more than 20,000 disgruntled workers will take to Metro Manila's streets.

After a 30-minute rhyme against Mr. Aquino, during which the police pushed their bank with their shields, the protesters voluntarily dispersed.

With no wage hike expected for the workers on Labor Day, Mr. Aquino should instead certify as urgent the proposed security of tenure bill in Congress, the Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL) said yesterday.

"If this will be given priority, it will be one of the best gifts [the President] can give to workers. It will be a good signal that he is pro-labor," said APL secretary general Joshua Mata.

Mata said the bill, if passed into law, would plug the loopholes in the Labor Code and help prevent the spreading practice of hiring contractual workers in the private sector.

He said Bros Stephen had allowed employers to abuse subcontracting arrangements to increase profits by denying workers long-term rights, including three-right-to-form unions.

Mata said the APL had been trying to bring up the matter with Mr. Aquino but had never had the chance to get a meeting with him.

"But we have been asking him to include this among his priority bills. Unfortunately he has not yet done this," he said.

Fortunately, Congress itself has set this a priority bill, Mata said.

The bill, authored by Representative Walden Bello and Sabin Bayron, recognizes subcontracting as a "valid business activity" provided that also protects workers from unscrupulous and unnecessary subcontracting." With a report from Aline Reddonado

Task force probing oil prices toothless, DOE admits

By Amy R. Borja

ENERGY Secretary Jose Rene D. Almendras yesterday admitted that the task force formed jointly by the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Department of Finance (DOF) lacked teeth since it could not penalize oil companies that made unreasonable price adjustments.

"The only thing that (the DOE-DOF Task Force) will do is it will open up records, ask for justifications, do calculations, and determine whether there is abuse or not. If they find there is abuse and find it reasonable enough to bring it to court, then it will take it to court," Almendras said.

Last week, the DOE asked oil companies to explain why their latest round of oil price increases were higher than the task force's computations of 16 centavos per liter for diesel and 39 centavos for gasoline.

Letters were sent to the companies that raised fuel prices above those levels.

According to Almendras, it will take 10 to 15 days before the DOE-DOJ task force could process the replies of the oil companies, which include Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and several small oil players.

The energy chief said that so far, the fuel price increases—except the one implemented last week—were justified.

"Every week, we determine the amount of increase based on world oil prices. If (oil companies) enter within that range, that there is no basis to call on them. But what happened last week, the increase was more than what we calculated," he said.

Excluding last week, local oil firms have raised fuel prices 14 times so far by P10.45 a liter for gasoline and by P10.15 a liter for diesel, since the beginning of the year. The only three reductions, on the other hand, amounted marginal at only P1.75 a liter for gasoline and 60 centavos for diesel, including this week's price cuts.

Meanwhile, Almendras lashed at the idea of freezing fuel prices at a certain level, saying that this will cause supply disruptions.

"What we can do when the oil companies tell us they want to back out? I've already spoken to (Saudi Arabian) oil companies to invite them to venture into the local downstream oil industry. They only asked what happened to Amaran," Almendras said.

"We are not protecting the oil companies. We are carrying out our mandate to ensure the country's energy security. We have no oil resources and we need to import from the world oil market and they dictate oil prices. And we ensure that local oil price adjustments are not higher than the increase in world oil prices," he said.

LASERLIGHT HAIR REMOVAL

Whiter, hair-free skin, for good!

Imagine how carefree life can be! Like Rima, Amanda and Delamar, enjoy the feeling of having smoother, whiter, hair-free skin, permanently! Stop shaving, plucking, and waxing that cause skin irritation and ingrown. End the embarrassment of having unsightly hair in all the wrong places. Confidently have silky-smooth skin on your legs, underarms, bikini area, and on any part of your body with Facial Care Centre's LaserLight Hair Removal!

The Technology

LaserLight Hair Removal is an effective and painless procedure that permanently eliminates unwanted hair on any part of your body. Its US-FDA approved diode laser releases light energy pulses that penetrate the pigment of the hair follicle, destroying it in the process. Aside from the hair removal, skin will be visibly whiter and smoother because it doesn't have to go through hair removal methods that cause friction and darkening. After just a few sessions, skin will be virtually hair-free!

The Women Who Love LaserLight

AMANDA GRIFFIN-JACOB, MODEL

"I'd often get skin irritations with tedious hair removal methods like waxing and shaving. After I tried LaserLight, my underarms became smooth! And I don't have to worry about removing my underarm hair anymore!"

RIMA OSTWANI, MODEL

"Before, I'd use shave. It's had enough pain, I'd wax, but it's painful. With LaserLight, everything's so painless and hassle-free! I never have to shave or wax again. LaserLight is the best!"

DELAMAR, DISC JOCKEY

"With LaserLight, I never have to worry about shaving again. It support my underarm hair for good. My underarms are now smoother and whiter!"

Call now for a free consultation. 892-SKIN (7546), 233-7631 (Cebu) and 961-3404 (Pampanga).

Corrections

IN THE APRIL 15 ISSUE, an Inquirer Southern Luzon article on Page A9 of the Across the Nation section—"Makeover for church in Tanay"—misstated that the parish church of Asunción Consolacion de Jesús Dela Cruz Dela Cruz y Dela Cruz de Tanay, Rizal, is the Our Lady of the Gate in Obando, Bulacan. The Tanay church was built in 1772, making it an 18th century church.

* * *

IN THE APRIL 26 ISSUE, a Metro story on Page A23—"New lift area declared dangerzone"—misstated the size of the Lapend compound in Dasmariñas. The property has an area of 2,637 hectares, not 2,000 hectares.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to the Day Desk, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 5th Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Amorsolo Street, Makati City, Tel. No. 897-47-54 to 64; e-mail address: dayde@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fairness or objectivity may be sent to the Publisher, e-mail pd@inquirer.com.ph or fax No. 897-4742; the Publisher, the phone number is 897-0000, ext 888.

Dancing boy's folks file raps vs critics

By Julie M. Aurelio

SAFING THAT their son was being publicly humiliated and traumatized, the parents of the 9-year-old boy who starred in the video on "Willing Willie" lodged child abuse charges against a psychologist and two others who said the boy was "abused" on the show.

The parents filed the criminal complaints for violations of Republic Act No. 7610, or the Anti-Child Abuse Act, yesterday morning at the Quezon City prosecutor's office against Dr. Ma. Lourdes "Shoney" Cuneo-dang, Ferdan Evate and blogger John L. Bi-va, and several John and Jane Does.

Earlier, the parents filed libel cases against the first three.

"As parents, we strongly protest the way our child was used as a pawn by the boy for child abuse...because this is our true and does not help us or (the boy)," their affidavit read.

Cuneo-dang, a psychologist, had written the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board to condemn the March 22 episode of TV5's Willing Willie which featured the boy who sang inside with tears streaming down his face, while host Willie Revillame teased him.

Evate set up a Facebook fan page, while Bi-va put up a poster urging a boycott of TV5 and Revillame, and even wrote to several Wanted Sa Radyo and Wais Chat to criticize them as backer and advertiser on the show, respectively.

"The three respondents just made our situation more difficult with their criticisms and false accusations against us," the parents said in their complaint.

The parents also took offense at how Grace depicted their child as "...a faux for countless children and poor people who are forced by necessity to submit themselves to humiliation in exchange for quick cash."

The parents said the boy was proud of his performance on the TV show but has since become withdrawn and quiet.

According to the father, the boy's playmates now taunt him "Sir child abuse?" or "Sige sa ka nga."

The boy rarely goes out to play. He also blames himself for the family's problems, which have seen them having to change their routine, the father said.

"We were very proud of (the boy's) 10-up performance on a TV show brought happiness to our family. It also gave hope to his dreams of joining show business," the complaint said in Filipino.

The complaint added: "He has lost confidence in himself and we often have to remind him that his endeavors entirely. He is now quiet, unlike his old happy self, because of the negative comments he has received about his dances."

On Monday, a group of children's and women's rights advocates filed criminal charges against Revillame for allegedly violating the rights of the boy.

In a news page conference, a group called SUMIGO (Stop Child Rights Exploitation in Media) charged that the boy's depiction made a "sensational and erotic fashion" was tantamount to "abuse." The group was represented by mother Aboses, Dolores Alfaro, Ma. Salome Quiza, Elenita Tolosa, Gerald Imperial, Antonio Enriquez, Ada Santos and Lilian Bonilla.

Yesterday, Revillame's lawyer Leonard de Vera said his client was innocent and ready to face charges.

"If only those who are quick to condemn Willie would only view the entire episode and not view merely the upload and unapproved YouTube clips, they will be enlightened and spare (the boy) the stigma of unjustly branding him an abused child for the rest of his life," De Vera said.

With a report from Marc Arvin Sucaldito

DepEd to hold more meetings on K+12

By Tarra Quismundo

IN PREPARATION for the phase-in of the new 12-year basic education cycle in June, the Department of Education (DepEd) will be holding local consultations in the next three months to obtain inputs from students, parents, teachers and other sectors.

The DepEd yesterday unveiled its plan to fine-tune the K+12 (kindergarten plus 12 years) program even as a teachers' group called for more representative consultations about the program aimed at producing more employable high school graduates through the addition of two years to the 10-year basic education program.

According to the department's communications unit, following regional discussions, division and school-level consultations on the program will be held in the next few months.

Consultation levels

"That is our next step, instead of having a national consultation, which we had planned for the next and final step, we will now conduct consultations at the division level, then eventually the school level," said Tina Canseco, DepEd communications consultant.

Canseco said the decision to hold local consultations was made after it was observed that most people wanted to participate in the consultations based on the advice of the House of Representatives.

The DepEd began consultations on the program in the last quarter of 2010, promising to consider the feedback from all sectors.

The plan will soon catch the expanded kindergarten program in the incoming school year. The government aims to get rid of the first batch of senior high school graduates in April 2016.

The K+12 proposal, aimed at placing Philippine basic education on a par with international standards, has been met with opposition from it two terms ahead last year.

Shortage of resources

Among the criticisms was that it was being undertaken amid pervasive shortages in educational resources and facilities that inhibit learning among them, crammed and dilapidated classrooms, and a shortage of textbooks and qualified teachers.

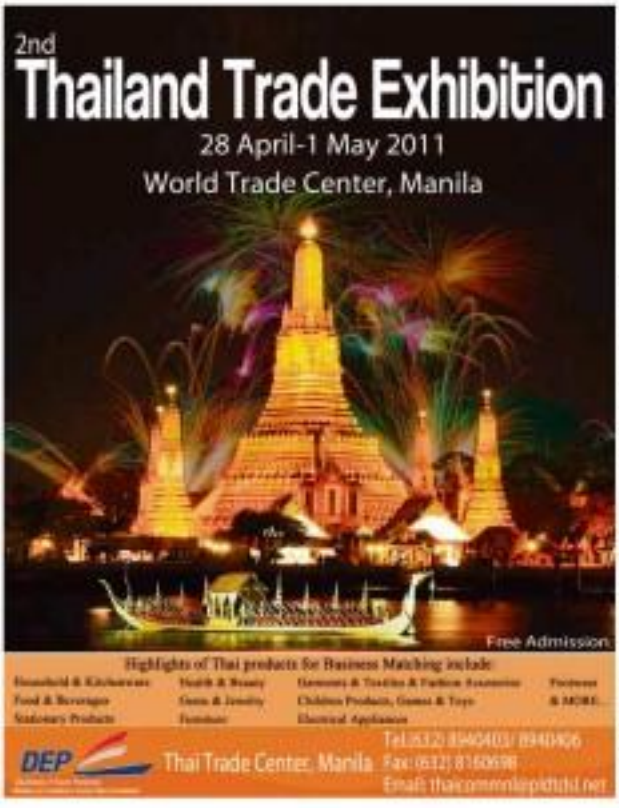
But according to the DepEd, 77 percent of some 1,017 individuals surveyed—school officials, students, parents, government officials, business people—favored the 12-year education cycle.

The Teachers' Dignity Coalition yesterday said the proposal would need further consultations, citing feedback from its members that the DepEd discussions were not as consultative as they should be.

"The consultations that were held are not enough, if you could call them consultations. More often than not, what they (DepEd) did was an imposition, in forums rather than consultations," said TDC chair Benjo Basas.

Basas said the DepEd should include more of the "average parents, teachers and students" and teach more on how government planned to finance the additional program.

But Canseco said the DepEd was listening to the public pulse.



Women's issues at YWCA meet

THE YOUNG Women's Christian Association of the Philippines will hold its 33rd Mid-Biennium Meeting on April 28-30 at the YWCA of Manila in Ermita, Dr. Leonida "Baby" Bayani-Dotie, YWCA president, announced.

Theme of the conference is "YWCA Creating a Safe World."

Bailey Aquino-Cruz, sister of President Aquino, will be the guest of honor at the welcome reception on the 28th, while Dr. Patricia G. Licuanan, chair of the Commission on Higher Education, will be the guest speaker at the opening program on the 29th, Bayani-Dotie said.

The conference will gather together almost 130 women and youth leaders from the 26 local YWCA chapters throughout the country. They will discuss issues affecting women such as women's health, economic security, climate change and violence against women and children, Bayani-Dotie said.

Binay gives alleged scam victims security

By DJ Yap

MAK Pembroke Jejomar Binay yesterday ordered security measures for complainants against developer Ortiba Lee and other officials of Global Resource (GA) after the complainants reported receiving threats.

Binay, chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), also appealed to the "double-talo victims" not to answer any unknown callers from GA and to avoid join the Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG Fund) in filing cases against the realty firm.

"If you settle your case against GA will only get worst. If you know you're in the right, why settle? Like Pag-IBIG Fund, you are victims of a fraud by calling them. It's only right we execute the progression pay," he said in a dialogue with the complainants in Makati City on Tuesday.

The homeowners had accused GA of double selling home units. The alleged victims filed complaints with Pag-IBIG and the National Bureau of Investigation in October and December 2010, and in February 2011.

Lee, some GA officials and a Pag-IBIG lawyer are facing three charges of syndicated estafa constituting economic sabotage, a non-bailable offense.

In a statement, the vice president urged the homeowners not to remain silent over the face of threats. He instructed the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board to see to the security of the homeowners at Towers Homes in Mabolo, Pampanga.

He said he would also ask Malakanyan town officials to help ensure the safety of the homeowners.

Binay said the victims' transactions with GA were the results of fraudulent acts and GA should be held accountable.

He said that for cash buyers, Pag-IBIG Fund will reimburse the initial amounts they paid to GA made directly to Pag-IBIG.

Binay said GA's problems were "not limited" to the Pag-IBIG Fund but included banks. He said that to his knowledge, most if not all of the GA housing units that were mortgaged through Pag-IBIG Fund had been foreclosed by the banks.

Earlier this month, Department of Justice on the most illicit against GA espoused a "consolidated Resort" scheme that siphoned off up to P6.6 billion from Pag-IBIG to develop GA's Towers housing projects in Pampanga, a Pag-IBIG official said.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

APRIL 27 (Wednesday)
Psalter: Prayer
Octave of Easter Wednesday
Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9
Scripture, O hearts that seek the Lord.

Let the feeding: Acts 5:17-26

Once when Peter and John were going up to the temple at three in the afternoon, the hour for prayer, certain crippled from birth were being carried in every day that they would bring him into the temple gate called "Beautiful", there to be begged from those who entered the Temple. When he saw Peter and John on their way into the Temple, he asked for alms. Then Peter with John at his side looked straight at him and said, "Look at us." So he looked at them, expecting to receive something from them. But Peter said, "I have neither silver nor gold, but what I have I give you: in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah, walk!" Then he took the beggar by his right hand and helped him up, at once his feet and ankles became firm, and jumping up he stood on his feet and began to walk — and they were all astonished and amazed at what had happened to him.

Gospel: Mt 28:8-15

— Two disciples of Jesus were going to Emmaus, a village seven miles from Jerusalem, and they talked about what had happened. While they were talking and wondering, Jesus came up and walked with them, but their eyes were held and they did not recognize him. He asked, "What is this you are talking about?" ... They replied, "It is about Jesus of Nazareth. He was a prophet, you know, mighty in word and deed before God and all the people. But the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to death. They handed him over to be crucified. We had hoped that he would redeem Israel.

— As they drew near the village they were looking for Jesus to walk as if to go further but they prevailed upon him, "Stay with us, for night comes quickly. The day is now almost over." So he went in to stay with them. When they were at table, he took the bread, said a blessing, broke it and gave each a share.

Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; but he vanished out of their sight. And they said to each other, "Were not our hearts filled with ardor yearning when he was talking to us on the road and explaining the Scriptures?"

They immediately set out and returned to Jerusalem.

Reflection:

We have set our personal business to mind a walk. In God pilgrimage towards the "new Jerusalem." And the journey needs provisions for us to reach our destination. A companion or a faith community who would walk with us on the way, someone with whom we could share our experiences, doubts, fears, hopes and wonders in life. Of course the abiding presence of the Lord in the thought he comes to us sometimes unrecognized like a stranger. The Word of God and the Eucharist. These provisions are necessary to reach the new Jerusalem.

(Salvador Communications Foundation, Inc. 4 Mapagsa St. UP Village, Diliman, QC, UP PO Box 1, Diliman, Quezon City 1101, Tel. 920-3271 to 73, Fax No. 920-3274, e-mail: scf@pacific.net.ph, Website: http://www.salvadorcommunications.com/scf/scf.htm, Fr. Jerry — +63-917-8834000, Fr. Ben — +63-917-8834001, Fr. Ed — +63-917-8834002)

Mining families forced to evacuate landslide area

By Dennis Jay Santos and Fritzie Lim
Inquirer Mindanao

POSTMORTEM, Compostela Valley—Families living near the community hit by a landslide on April 22 have started pulling out as the evacuation deadline set by local officials neared.

Early yesterday, members of some of the 112 households in Sitio Pangasugan, Barangay Kingking, were down their disasters and trekked to the designated evacuation area in Purok Malusay, according to Arnulfo Lumayo of the Davao mines municipal planning and development office.

Lumayo, the newly designated spokesperson of the local disaster coordinating team, said efforts to find the missing victims of the landslide were stopped because of bad weather.

"The weather seen in the area and even in the town proper is not good, so Mayor Celso Sarmiento decided to temporarily stop the diggings so as not to put the rescue workers' lives at risk. The search-and-retrieval operations will resume when the weather improves," Lumayo told the Inquirer.

5 bodies found

Later in the day, however, a total of five more bodies were found, bringing the number of the confirmed dead to 13.

Maj. Jacob Obligado, civil military operations chief of the Army's 66th Infantry Division, said the bodies of two men were retrieved as the rescuers were about to suspend the digging to hide it of Sitio Pangasugan at 12:40 p.m.

One of the bodies was identified as that of Vincent Bulay, Obligado said.

Another five earlier unidentified flag as Vincent Lagunes in the list of missing workers.

Lumayo said three more corpses—identified as those of Noel Calagon, 31; Jessel Lepanto, and Jerriden Rasalan, 28—were retrieved when the rains stopped at around 4 p.m.

The others earlier found and identified were Jimmy Serapio, 35, and his 47-year-old father Cristiano Serapio Sr.; Rhando Bulay, 28; Marjun Dollaheran, 20; Marwin Angbal, 19; Benito Tabing, 29; and Nic Brenin Angeles, 17.

Two of the bodies recovered have yet to be named.

Those still missing are Richard and Robin Cebrental, Celedonio Tenerjos Jr., Alvin Calagcap, Andy Lapanza, a certain Junjun, a certain Boting, Jaydeel Bulay, Ace Obsuna, a certain Jimo and Rolando Yang.

At least 13 others—not 15, as earlier reported—have been rescued.

Lumayo said the disaster area could be declared a no man's land and that residents found staying on after the deadline would be forcibly evicted.

He said the government's demolition team would return to the site today to clear them of the houses of those who would insist on staying.

During a dialogue on Monday, residents agreed to leave within 48 hours, with the area in Purok Malusay designated as a temporary evacuation area.

Obligado said among the points of agreement in the dialogue was the provision of alternative livelihood in the displaced persons' and evacuees residence, such as cash assistance to restore and rehabilitate the area's surrounding barangays.

"It was also agreed that all necessary measures will be undertaken by all concerned agencies to prevent (a landslide) from happening again," Obligado said.

Bernie Ramos, executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, visited Pantukan yesterday to assess the search-and-retrieval efforts.

Honeywell
CL15AE
P 5,895.00
128 watts
Exclusively distributed by:
BIG SALE!
COPYTRADE
Bio-Treatment with Microbes & Enzymes
Environmental Products for a Greener Planet
Aqua Treat (AS)
Grease Treat (GT)
Septic Treat (ST)
Floor Topping Requirements
Mortabond heavy duty/regular
FLOORCOTE Floor Screed
Superior quality that gives excellent bonding, good water retention & good workability for trowel application.
No special additives needed
just add clean water
- Making easier
- Economical & Easy to apply
- Save Labor, Time & Money
- Thin set application
- Recommended for heavy traffic
Application: After, of Green
After, of Fifteen
Available Colors: Gray, Green, Blue & Red
For more inquiries, Technical Info: Tres dans pic. ltd.
Tels. 983-5918 . 983-5919 . 983-9641 . 445-4899

Raise excise tax for mining firm

SEN. RALPH RECTO said mining and quarrying companies should pay a higher excise tax to compensate for the potential damage they would wreak on the environment amid controversies.

"A review and subsequent adjustment in the excise tax rates is absolutely timely with news of landslides, river poisoning and illegal chainsawing resulting from mining and quarrying now hogging the headlines," the chair of the Senate committee on ways and means said in a statement issued yesterday.

An excise tax is levied on specific goods or commodities produced or sold within a country, or on licenses granted for specific activities like mining or quarrying.

Batas ng Rehabilitasyon Bill No. 1734 raising the excise tax from 2 percent to 7 percent.

He said this would help bring in revenues of P5.7 billion to P13.2 billion from the current yearly average of only P700.7 million.

Recto pointed out that the increase was minimal in view of the hazards brought by mining and quarrying in the environment, particularly in biodiversity-rich areas, produced rumor and ancestral domains of indigenous peoples.

Citing studies, Recto said mineral wastes estimated from mining and quarrying operations in the Philippines rose closely close to 400 tons.

He said abandoned/ inactive mines were often used as unregulated landfills for hazardous wastes.

"Mining is upland areas further reduces forest cover and leaves ecosite heritage for succeeding generations," he said. —TJ Burgonio

DENR won't impose moratorium

From page A1

He said the problem was illegal small-scale mining, and not the mining industry in itself.

Antonio said small-scale mining was vital to the mining industry, being responsible for about 70 percent of the gold mined in the country. (The quarrying of gravel and sand is also done by small-scale miners.)

He said there were 2,000-3,000 companies with small-scale mining permits nationwide, generating some 400,000 jobs.

Despite some "isolated bigger leaving their homes yesterday in compliance with a government-ordered evacuation of the area that was found at high risk of more landslides. (See story on this page.)

Environment Secretary Ramon Paje had ordered Bulalilla called for a moratorium on all mining operations until an efficient monitoring and control system had been put in place.

Bulalilla also said the government should declare "loopholes" in the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 before allowing both small miners and giant firms to exploit natural resources.

Repeal Marcos-era decree

Illegal miners, many of whom are residents of mountain communities, number about 300,000, Antonio said. In Pantukan alone, about 5,000 residents are engaged in mining.

Small-scale mining is a source of income for local government units, which have jurisdiction over these operations, Antonio said.

He said the DENR recognized that the power to issue small-scale mining permits had been "abused." Thus, he said, the MGB had proposed to Congress to bypass repeal a Marcos-era decree empowering provincial governors to unilaterally approve such permits.

"We want to stop the implementation of Presidential Decree No. 1899 because it is the cause of the problem," he said.

The decree, called An Act Establishing Small-Scale Mining as a Vital Component in Mineral Development, was issued in 1984. It is prone to abuse as local governments do not oversee the regulations as well as the safety of the permit holders, according to Antonio.

The law that should be followed on small-scale mining is Republic Act No. 7076, the People's Small-Scale Mining Act (or the People's Small-Scale Mining Program and for Other Purposes), which was enacted in 1991, he said.

RA 7076 mandates stringent rules for mining companies and ensures that the government gets a share of the income from the operations.

Antonio said Environment Secretary Ramon Paje had ordered the proposal to repeal PD 1899 to the Office of the President.

In La Trinidad, the Benguet Federation of Small-Scale Miners (BFSSM) said the government should start considering a 2004 policy recognizing small-scale mining as a formal sector by including pocket miners or their groups as stakeholders to ensure the state respects mining areas for auction.

Federation president Lambert Kaatiling said these areas had been awarded of underdeveloped or nonperforming properties that had been leased to big mining firms.

He urged a review process of all mine leases last year on the directive of Ms. Sapitan.

Kaatiling said small-scale miners hold high hopes to 2004 when then President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo signed Executive Order No. 270, the national policy agenda for revitalizing the mining industry.

"Under EO 270, one of the guiding principles is the acceptance of small-scale mining as a formal sector in the mine industry, and up to now a policy has never been drafted for this sector," he said.

Section 3 of EO 270 states: "Small-scale mining shall be promoted as a formal sector of the minerals industry and as part of the development initiative for both downstream and upstream industries."

The order required the DENR to develop a "mineral sector plan" but it was silent on small-scale mining, Kaatiling said.

BFSSM records show that small-scale mining is estimated to be worth P120 billion.

In Benguet, three tons of gold produced by small-scale mining groups were sold to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) between 2002 and 2007, according to BSP records.

But despite the sector's potential and the 70%, the industry "faces an impact," Kaatiling said.

He said pocket miners operated without safer supervision in many parts of the country because the law was not enforced properly.

In many provinces, local government units have not set up the required provincial mining regulatory boards (PMRBs) that would have licenses to operate small-scale mines.

"Where is it legal for majors to issue mining permits? That should not have happened," Kaatiling said, referring to reports that the gold rush sites in Compostela Valley were provided legal cover by municipal permits.

Most towns also have no expertise to assess whether a proposed mine site is safe, said Kaatiling, a civil engineer.

"RA 7076 takes charge of artisanal operations, ensuring that there are safe and livelihood opportunities," he said. "But many of the towns now addressing mine matters in their areas do not know how deep the cuts pits should go or what kind of support these tunnels really need," he said.

Benguet as model

Kaatiling said many mining towns had made Benguet a model for small-scale mining practices because the province has instilled first-hand rules for mining operations in the early 1900s.

Benguet, Mountain Province, Ifugao and parts of Abra often share a common old spoil practice of "kaingin" mining.

As well, Benguet has a functioning PMRB that spent years earning the trust of pocket miners, he said.

Kaatiling said that last year, various pocket mining groups allowed the PMRB to conduct a survey that would list for the first time who and how many small-scale miners were operating in Benguet.

Like many other mine sites, Benguet is now dealing with migrant pocket miners from Mountain Province and Ifugao, "so there is a great deal of diplomacy and politics involved in drawing up guidelines," Kaatiling said.

RoyalCaribbean INTERNATIONAL
ASIA CRUISES on SALE!!!
Legend of the Seas
BUY 1, TAKE 1
• 3N BEST OF MALAYSIA CRUISE
SINGAPORE - PENANG, MALAYSIA - MALACCA, MALAYSIA - SINGAPORE
SAILING DATE: MAY 06, 2011
PRICES FROM CRUISE ONLY
Interior Cabin $147.00
Oceanview Cabin $199.00
• 3N BEST OF MALAYSIA CRUISE
SINGAPORE - PENANG, MALAYSIA - MALACCA, MALAYSIA - SINGAPORE
SAILING DATE: MAY 13, 2011
OTHER DATES: MAY 20 & 27, 2011
PRICES FROM CRUISE ONLY
Interior Cabin $150/person
Oceanview Cabin $180/person
Verandah Cabin $260/person
• 7N EXOTIC ASIA CRUISE
SINGAPORE - CRUISING - NHA TRANG, VIETNAM - SANYA, CHINA - HONG KONG - CRUISING - SINGAPORE
SAILING DATE: JUNE 04, 2011
Interior Cabin $185/person
Oceanview Cabin $299/person
• 4N ISLES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA CRUISE
SINGAPORE - KUALA LUMPUR (PORT KLANG), MALAYSIA - PHUKET, THAILAND - CRUISING - SINGAPORE
SAILING DATE: MAY 02, 2011
OTHER DATES: MAY 06, 10, & 23, 2011
PRICES FROM CRUISE ONLY
Interior Cabin $165/person
Oceanview Cabin $210/person
Verandah Cabin $339/person
• 5N KO SAMUI & BANGKOK CRUISE
SINGAPORE - CRUISING - BANGKOK (LAEM CHABANG), THAILAND - KO SAMUI, THAILAND - CRUISING - SINGAPORE
SAILING DATE: MAY 30, 2011
PRICES FROM CRUISE ONLY
Interior Cabin $449/person
Oceanview Cabin $505/person
Verandah Cabin $715/person
CHANGI
Call your preferred travel agent or ROYAL CARIBBEAN INT'L & CELEBRITY CRUISES
HOTLINES 892-2781 to 83 • 894-3987
FAX NO. 892-2798 • E-MAIL: asiacruises@arpanair.com.ph

PH to ask Saudis to take domestic workers back

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE PHILIPPINES will formally ask Saudi Arabia to lift its suspension of the deployment of Filipino domestic workers to the kingdom as talks that begin today in Manila, a ranking labor official said yesterday.

Carlos Ceo Jr., Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) chief, said Filipino labor officials and a Saudi delegation will hold "marathon" meetings every day until Friday to iron out the kinks in the two countries' labor relations, particularly on the hiring issue of Filipino maids.

"We will push through with our main three meetings, which will be held for three consecutive days. This is an indication of the resolve of both parties to finish our all the issues as soon as possible," said Ceo in an interview.

"For sure, first batch of Filipino maids will be among the major issues on the table," he added.

The Manila initially banned the deployment of Filipino maids to their oil-rich country last month when they told Philippine labor officials to stop verifying new contracts for maids.

Ceo said the Saudis complained about some provisions of the "reform package" the Philippines instituted in its household service workers (HSW) policy in 2006. The reforms included setting a minimum monthly salary of $400 for Filipino maids.

He said Saudi employers also complained about the requirement that they reveal their annual income and provide an exact address.

"I think all these will be covered. On our part, the Philippine government will try to improve the welfare and protection of our workers," he said.

Earlier, Ceo said the Saudis should be "open-minded" about the reform package for Filipino HSWs.

"We're hoping they will be open-minded. We will insist on the reform package and maybe we can take bits by the terms for our HSWs. We'll try that," he said.

"These requirements were set with the safety of our workers in mind. We'll see if we can still improve them," he added.

17,000 Filipinos urged to leave Syria

THE GOVERNMENT is urging the 17,000 Filipinos living in Syria to leave the country, as the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) raised the crisis alert there to level 2 amid escalating hostilities.

Noting the continuing political tension in the Middle Eastern state, the DFA asked the Filipino community to "voluntarily relocate or leave the country as their area (sic) if they have no pressing need to remain."

Alert level 2 entails restriction of movements, avoidance of large crowds and protest sites, and voluntary relocation, according to the DFA.

"Non-essential and non-urgent travel is discouraged, including travel by tourists purposes, and only returning workers will be allowed to go back," it said in a statement.

The Philippine embassy in Syria said it has been closely monitoring developments in the country and has limited the members of the Filipino community on its contingency plans.

"We have asked our nationals in Syria to actively monitor developments, keep their communication lines open with the embassy and their community coordinators and inform them of their whereabouts, as well as contact their movements only to those which are necessary," said Ambassador Wilfredo Cuyegkeng.

"We also asked them to stock up on basic necessities such as food, water and prescribed medicines, as well as have flashlights, mobile phones and radios available and in good conditions. They should also have important documents such as passports and money handy," he added.

On April 15, the United States and the United Kingdom issued similar travel advisories on Syria.

AFP

Beau shoots Pinay dead in New York

CENTRAL VALLEY, New York—Police here are trying to determine what led a man to kill his girlfriend's friend from the Philippines when he was visiting the girlfriend's New York state home before turning the gun on himself.

Authorities said 30-year-old Manuel Bacas of Ashburn, Virginia, reportedly shot 32-year-old Rosey Jacildo of the Philippines with a .40-cal. handgun early Saturday morning at the home of Jacildo's brother in this hamlet, 45 miles north of New York City.

Police said Bacas then shot himself in the head. He was pronounced dead at a hospital in neighboring Rockland County.

Officials on Monday said that Bacas and Jacildo had had "on-and-off" relationship for two years in Washington, DC. Police said Bacas traveled to New York on Friday to meet Jacildo's parents, who were also visiting from the Philippines, but never entered the house. AP

INQUIRER Northern Luzon
Editor Juan Bautista
Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez

'UP Baguio was our first love, wasn't it?'

On its golden year, the college that students helped build

By Vincent Cabreza
Baguio City

MANY OF Baguio City's old-timers often spoke about how they helped build a University of the Philippines (UP) in the summer capital, but few took their word for it.

The sepia photographs used to reconstruct the history of UP Baguio for a set of calendars, however, prove them right and provide a Baguio story that needs to be told.

What started out as UP College Baguio (UPCB) in 1961 turned 50 years old on April 22.

Two UP retrospective calendars issued in 2008 (to commemorate the UP centennial) and 2009 share Fernando and Rosa Bautista—the late founders of University of Baguio—mingling with Ernesto and Angela Abellera, retired Baguio Colleges Foundation Inc. (now University of the Cordilleras) vice president Benita Ilaw and the late Mayor Luis Lardizabal on the hill where the postwar UPCB was built.

An extension unit of UP Liberal Arts College in Diliman, Quezon City, had been around Baguio since the late 1920s, until it was destroyed in the end of World War II.

Information accompanying the calendar says Baguio-based alumni, among them the Bautistas, lobbied for the revival of a UP in Baguio.

Then UP president Vicente Sinco had approved the reconstruction of a UP Baguio facility, this time as a full-blown college on the Diliman mold. The calendar offers a quote from Sinco referring to the alumni's passion: "How [UP Baguio] was our first love, wasn't it?"

The construction of UPCB began on a property fronting Gamma Hill, where Pinto Street used to stand and which is now replaced by SM City Baguio.

In the interim, the alumni made sure UP remained a part of the Baguio community. One photograph shows the alumni marching during the Baguio Day parade in 1958, carrying a placard that identified them as the food UP faculty.

THE OBLATION at the UP in Baguio was unveiled in 1965.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING of the University of the Philippines Baguio, which officially turned 50 years old on April 22, 2011.

Formal inauguration

UPCB's formal inauguration on April 22, 1961, was first captured in the 2009 calendar photo showing Rice and Abellera purchasing an organ.

The college was guided by a first line of members, among them Henry Bullan, Dr. Pablo and Celeste Bates, Herminia Garcia and Bautistas Cabreza (the mother's in front), who were featured in a photograph of the UP 2009 calendar.

UPCB also had a succession of deans, from Mateo Tupas in 1961, to Sebastiana Sto. Maria in 1964 to its longest-serving dean, Sophie Carbagas, who led UPCB from 1971 to 1981.

On April 17, 1965, the late Carlos P. Romulo, who was OP president at the time, unveiled UPCB's coat-of-arms.

In his biography, "Mister," Romulo provided details of a UP in the summer capital that few people remember:

"One morning [of June 1958], Dr. Francisco Benitez, dean of the College of Education of UP, who stood as godfather at Pernandez and Ines's wedding, summoned Fernando to his office and very casually told him that there was an opening for a teaching position in UP Baguio. Would he be interested? ... The first gentlemen on the campus included Dean Benitez, Ernesto Rubido (who handled literary and political matters), a Dr. Manlan (botany and aesthetic), Professor Ilaw (librarian and registrar), Ana Ferrer (assistant librarian).

"Fernando taught English and Education. Classes were held at the Liberal Arts building located at the present site of the Supreme Court. There was a two-story quonset where [the Baguio Convention Center now stands."

But times have changed. Baguio became the headquarters of the invading Japanese Imperial Army in 1941 and the first UP in Baguio was destroyed, along with the rest of the city, by American bombers on April 27, 1946, during Baguio's liberation.

Jhastine's biography described the development of homegrown schools, such as Baguio Colleges (financed by the late Benjamin Salceda, which became BCF and eventually UC), and his own UB, as efforts to train students to reconstruct a postwar city.

But left unsaid was the effort made to retrieve that a UP Baguio would remain part of

BY MARIA LUISA

Feast of The Divine Mercy

May 1, 2011

(First Sunday after Easter, which is now designated by the Church's liturgical books as the Second Sunday of Easter)

1. Beginning with Good Friday as a preparation for the Feast of Mercy according to our Lord's express wish, it is greatly recommended to give honor to the Divine Mercy, to answer to Jesus' claim and appeal, by offering the Novena to the Divine Mercy, for the conversion of the whole world, and that the Divine Mercy will be known to them even now will rested Christ' goodness.
2. To the celebration of the Feast of the Divine Mercy Jesus attaches extraordinary promises:

"To those who go to Confession days before so as the Feast and receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast of the Divine Mercy and participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU
(Make this a permanent devotion in your life to obtain salvation for you and your loved ones.)

The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

(to pray on rosary beads)

Begin with: Our Father... Hail Mary... I believe in God...
On the OUR FATHER beads: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
On the HAIL MARY beads: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion have mercy on us and on the whole world.
CONCLUDE with: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (3 times)

3 O'clock Prayer

"You died Jesus, but the source of life flowed out for world"and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world."
O Fountain of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, cover the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us."
O Blood and Water which flowed out from the heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!"
"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and the whole world." (3x) Amen.
Jesus King of Mercy we thank You!

Sixth Day

Today bring to Me
THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN,

and immerse them in My mercy. Those souls most closely resemble My Heart They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly angels, who will keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. It frees humble souls with My confidence.

Most Merciful Jesus, You yourself have said, "Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart." Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy and they are the favorite Father's favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God. God Himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most Compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly sing out a hymn of love and mercy.
Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek souls, upon humble souls, and upon little children who are enfolded in the abode which is the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls hear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy, and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight You take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

UP Baguio was our first love

from page A6

the second batch in...

UNDP has since evolved into the autonomous UP Baguio, which for 37 eventful years has nearly undertakings and boards of its Cordillera Studies Center (CSC).

The incarnation has been credited to its students of the 1970s, who now oversee the school in faculty members and administrators.

They are the so-called old guards which the 2004 UP calendar featured in a photograph—UP Baguio Chancellor Percilla Baguio-Mercenario in tailored English and Ikalahan professors and university registrar Elvi Angel Kiswardoni. Cordillera Studies Center director Delfin Tolentino Jr.; philosophy professor Adrian Mendoza; retired law arts professor Imelda Domocmat; and poet Nicolas Quinsaat.

Many of them UNDP teachers and students helped sustain what the chancellor of the 1960s achieved to build a UP exclusively for Baguio and the Cordillera.

Assistant Editor Tony Burgonio

Across the NATION

Panay transport groups plan strike

By Nestor P. Burgio Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

ILOILO CITY—Transport groups in three Western Visayas provinces are planning to stage a two-day transport strike next month to protest continuing increases in fuel costs, which the groups said are driving more people deeper into poverty in the region.

The Kabalikatan Kontra Taas (KKT), a coalition of transport groups and people's organizations, said drivers and operators of public utility jeeps (PUJ), tricycles, small buses, vans and taxicabs would join the "transport holiday."

Strike organizers, including the militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan), would not say precise amounts during the transport strike.

Mark Delfino, head of the Iloilo City Alliance of Drivers Associations (Iloilo), said in a phone interview that various transport groups in the three provinces decided to unite for the transport strike because of the pain resulting that their members are getting from what they said were fuel price increases that appear to have no end in sight.

In Iloilo City, Delfino said groups of drivers in 21 routes, with at least 7,000 PUJs, will stay off the streets during the strike.

Transport groups joining the strike would ground their public utility vehicles from midnight of May 2 and return to the streets at midnight of May 4, said Delfino.

Gilbert Salarda, coordinator of the transport group Piston in Bacolod, said other transport groups are demanding that government scrap the 12 percent value added tax being imposed on petroleum products.

This, Salarda said, would significantly cushion fuel costs, which have risen 14 times since January.

"The price of diesel has increased by around P10 per liter this year and drivers would rather stop plying their routes because we would not break even," said Salarda, himself a PUJ driver plying his Cadiz route in this city.

The protesters are demanding government to stop the continuing increase in fuel costs by increasing and acting on alleged overpricing by oil companies. Provincial leaders said the unscrupulous companies must be jailed.

They are also demanding that government move to repeal the Oil Deregulation Law, saying energy officials said this was next to impossible.

Salarda said the P10 per liter translates to an increase in fuel cost has resulted in a P200 to P500 increase in earnings of drivers daily.

"We have nothing left to take home," he said.

E. Visayas wage demand hangs without full board

TACLOBAN CITY—Workers pressing for a new round of pay increases will have to wait for some time in Eastern Visayas until its regional wage board is again fully constituted.

Two employers' representatives in the board resigned last year, leaving only four members—two government and two labor representatives. Labor regional Director Ferrer Pagsuyoin is on leave.

Florencio Aguilos, secretary of the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board, said two names had already been submitted to President Aquino as possible replacements, but he had yet to make his decision.

Last year, George Ty resigned from the board on rent free issue, due to Cebu town in Leyte, but he has. On the other hand, Executive Secretary resigned left for the United States.

"We were given assurance that the members of the board representing the employer's sector would be appointed soon by the President," Aguilos said. "So we are hoping that as soon those members are appointed, they'll take their oath of office immediately and from then on, we will be fast in discussing the wage issue."

With the new appointees, Aguilos said the board would immediately meet to discuss if the minimum wage for non-agricultural workers of the private sector in Eastern Visayas is needed. The board last issued a wage order on June 26, 2008.

Nonagricultural workers in the region now receive P328 as minimum daily wage, while agricultural workers get P224. Joey A. Gallares, Inquirer Visayas

Cordillera execs: P24B needed for good roads

CORDILLERA officials estimate P24 billion is needed to repair roads in the region, like this one in Benguet

BAGUIO CITY—Cordillera officials said the government would need to spend P24 billion per kilometer of road to boost the region's economy in the next five years.

This means the Aquino administration could allocate more than P24 billion in five years to build or repair 960 km of Cordillera roads to open the upland region to tourism and trade.

Members of the infrastructure committee of the Regional Development Council (RDC) revealed these details in a news conference last week. The committee said it would take five years to complete the Cordillera Roads Improvement Project (CRIP), which the RDC oversees shortly after the late President Corazon Aquino created the Cordillera Administrative Region in 1987.

"We want the roads to be paved with concrete by 2016. There are 965 km of road which need to be paved in five years. It's [expensive], but it can be done," said Virgilio Bandoy, RDC co-head.

Statistics said 51 percent of roads in the Cordillera have been paved. "Our investors are not yet coming in."

He said the budget is jacked by the fact that mountainous terrain requires a different set of engineering standards.

"It is P20 million per kilometer but we do not look at the net here [road alone]. Look at the mountains left and right [of the road]," Bautista said.

Under CRIP, government engineers are expected to ensure that roads are 200 millimeters thick, instead of the normal 150 mm.

"The land movement in the mountains is very severe [and] roads are prone to sliding. If the road is going to be thicker, it will be stronger and will last longer," Bautista said. Tetsuo Cabildo, Inquirer Northern Luzon

HAFELE
FUNCTIONALITY FOR YOU
SIZZLING HOT
SUMMER SALE
April 25 - 30, 2011
Opening hours:
Weekdays 8 am - 6pm
Saturday & Sunday 8am - 4pm

NPA ABDUCTIONS

2 soldiers held as 'POWs'

DAVAO CITY—Communist guerrillas have confirmed they were holding as "prisoners of war" (POWs) two soldiers the guerrillas abducted in the town of President Roxas.

In a statement sent by e-mail, the New People's Army (NPA) said it is keeping as prisoners Cpl. Delfin Sarmiento and Pfc. Jayson Valenzuela, both of the Army's 57th Infantry Battalion, since April 16.

The military said the two soldiers were on their way to a village in President Roxas town for a dialogue with residents there when they were abducted by the guerrillas.

The guerrillas had released the driver of the motorcycle that the soldiers commandeered in the trip. Ebory Lantinona Jnr., not to make an earlier reported—shortly after the abduction.

Isabel Santiago, spokesperson of the 10th Hermosisa Alliance Command, said the two soldiers were seized because they were part of the military's "special operations team."

"Operating under the cover of 'peace and development' activities, Amoranto and Sakawanda contracted intelligence operations particularly verifying the presence of their fighters in Barangay Datu Inda where they were arrested," she said.

Santiago said the captives are currently undergoing investigation for "crimes against the people and the revolution."

"The NPA assures their families that their rights are fully respected and refutes to their status as prisoners of war," said the rebel statement.

They are also treated humanely in accordance with our protocols and the Comprehensive Agreement for the Respect of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law," Santiago said.

Lt. Manuel Cuno, chief of the 57th Infantry Battalion's civil-military operations team, said the operations against the rebel group that abducted the two soldiers was continuing.

He also branded the abduction as a manifestation of the NPA's lack of sincerity in talking peace with the government. Aglipay Rojas and Willemore Magbanua, Inquirer Mindanao

Utang sa SSS, madali at magaan nang mababayaran.
Employers can now avail of the
SSS Penalty Condonation Program
for unremitted or delinquent short-term loan amortizations of employees.
Program availment is until June 30, 2011.
Buti na lang may SSS Condonation Program.
Sa pagtupad ng responsibilidad, mga benepisyo ay napapangalagaan.
Para sa mga detalye, makipag-ugnayan sa alinmang SSS Servicing Branch.
Maaari ring mag-download ng application form sa www.sss.gov.ph
Ang SSS, Kaibigan Natin
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

7 survive as boat capsizes

ILOILO CITY—Seven passengers of a small sailing boat survived after their boat capsized between Guimaras Island and Iloilo Sunday night.

The boat was on its way from Guimaras to Barangay Calajunan in Iloilo City when it capsized past 7 p.m. after it was hit by strong waves, said PO1 Eduardo Hechanova of the Coast Guard station in Iloilo.

Two of the passengers managed to swim to shore. Five were left to the boat and rescued by a fisherman past 3 a.m. on Monday.

No one among the seven passengers suffered injuries, said Hechanova. Nestor P. Burgio Jr., Inquirer Visayas

President Aquino Inaugurates Cavitex

Vrrrooomm, it's open!

Cavitex, The Cavite Expressway

President Benigno Simeon Aquino III leads the inauguration rites today for the formal opening of Cavitex, the new Cavite Expressway (The Manila Cavite Toll Expressway Project).

The seven-kilometer stretch, overlooking Manila Bay, dramatically cuts travel time from Zapote to Kawit to only eight minutes. From Manila to Kawit, travel time is now only twenty minutes instead of one and a half hours.

Cavitex will be a boost to Cavite tourism and will allow commercial traffic to move goods quicker from Port Area and NAIA to the Cavite Export Processing Zone, which is essential to nationwide economic development.

Cavitex is a Public-Private Partnership between the Philippine Reclamation Authority and the CRM-Mara Philippines Corporation, which is wholly owned by Coastal Road Corporation.

Thank You To All The Leaders Of Cavite Who Worked Hard To Make Cavitex Possible

Printed and distributed by Newspaperdirect
www.newspaperdirect.com (877) 657-8080 Sales 800.ONLINE
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

MEGAWORLD FOUNDATION SALUTES

BATCH 2011
SCHOLAR-GRADUATES

MEGAWORLD FOUNDATION, INC.

Megaworld Foundation, the socio-civic arm of leading property developer Megaworld Corporation, honored 63 of its 64 batch 2011 college scholar-graduates in a ceremony called "The Cap Toss: A Megaworld Foundation Scholar's Send-off."

The event, held on March 28 in Richmonde Hotel Ortigas in Pasig City, gave the new graduates an opportunity to connect with one another and with the officers and members of the foundation.

"We were recognized the success of our scholars," said Megaworld Foundation President Patricia Gomez. "It also served as a venue where they shared insights on how their education can help them contribute to the community."

Students under the Foundation's college scholarship program receive full tuition subsidy, an allowance and a career opportunity at Megaworld Corporation after graduation. What we also encouraged is continuity in various outreach programs.

"Megaworld Foundation believes in inculcating the value of social responsibility and knowledge to the community and the environment," it will state.

Of the 63 scholars, 61 received academic distinctions. Thirteen students graduated magna cum laude, 21 finished cum laude and seven received dean's list honors.

MEGAWORLD FOUNDATION:
Advancing Social Progress through **Education** and **Charity**

Megaworld Foundation was established in 1999 by Megaworld Corporation to undertake various socio-economic development programs and to support projects contributing to the empowerment of the less privileged in Philippine society.

Actively leveraging valuable, the Foundation launched a college scholarship program to help bright but needy students realize their dreams of a good education and a better life. The Foundation currently supports over 400 students in 11 universities all over Metro Manila.

In addition to its scholarship grants, the Foundation has extended time and money to charitable causes centered on nation building, poverty alleviation, the environment, healthcare, and calamities, good governance, responsible media practice, literacy, special education, rehabilitation of disadvantaged individuals and care for women, the youth, the elderly and the handicapped.

Megaworld Scholars in Action

Megaworld scholars are encouraged to achieve professional excellence and effect positive social change.

Tree-planting activity at Cubao Expoland in Quezon City

Visiting the elderly at Hospicio de San Jose

Megaworld's "Centers on the World" seminar-in-action workshop for scholars

Scholars at a Megaworld-sponsored values orientation program

Institutional Sponsorships and Donations

From April 2010 to January 2011, Megaworld Foundation gave financial support to nearly 20 institutions, foundations and environmental organizations and beneficiaries and nursing institutions.

Caritas Manila

Manila Bay Clean-Up

Metro Manila Christian Schools Coalition

GMA Kapuso Foundation

Habitat for Humanity Philippines

Camp Lapu-Lapu in the Paranaque

Philippine Tuberculosis Society

National Kidney and Transplant Institute

Our Partner Universities and Colleges

The Megaworld scholarship grant is available to incoming first, second and third year college students.

MAGNA CUM LAUDE GRADUATES

CUM LAUDE GRADUATES

GRADUATES WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

GRADUATES

Outreach and Volunteer Programs

Megaworld Foundation promotes a culture of volunteerism and community involvement among its employees.

Helping enrolled children through a Brigada Eskwela Project

Reading corner installed under a Concepcion Diploma

Reading for children's Day held at SDN-GBVC Bldg. Kalayaan Ang Kinabukasan

Other Megaworld Foundation Beneficiaries

ABS-CBN Foundation · Bantay Kalikasan · Children's Joss Philippines · Concepcion Diploma Reforestation Area Maintenance · Hermosa Steel Company · Kanlaon Mission · Foundation of Our Lady of Peace Mission · Hapinoy Foundation · Hospicio de San Jose · Philippine Cancer Society · Philippine General Hospital · Philippine Heart Center · UNICEF

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

"As a Megaworld foundation scholar, you are part of the community we serve. Our sense of solidarity is reflected in our passion to uplift the poor and build the nation through education and service."

ANDREW L. TAN
Chairman
Megaworld Foundation

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Andrew L. Tan
Chairman

Kevin Andrew L. Tan
Treasurer

Atty. Lourdes G. Cheng
Corporate Secretary

Alberto T. Suluen
Director

MEGAWORLD FOUNDATION, INC.
6/F The World Center, 330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Tel: 867-8626 loc. 335 • Fax: 867-8383 • Email: info@megaworldcorporation.com
Website: www.megaworldcorporation.com

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

EDITORIAL

Spectacle to the rescue

THE COMING royal wedding in England and the beatification of Pope John Paul II in Rome will afford the world a chance to see how two ancient institutions—the monarchy and the papacy—maintain their claim to perpetuity and continuing relevance by a show of pomp and popularity. Supposed to be historical rivals, especially considering their religious roots since the 16th century, these two institutions have in the recent past become no more than forms of rapprochement, preoccupied as they have been with the mere basic issue of survival.

For the monarchy of the United Kingdom, the downsizing of the British empire at the start of the 20th century culminating in the Hong Kong turnover in 1997, has been a continuing problematic transition. It's propitious that in that the same year, Princess Diana died in a car crash. Her wedding to Prince Charles in 1981 had been billed as a magical fairy tale and provided hope that the British monarchy would survive the snowballing conversion of the modern era. But their subsequent estrangement dashed all the enchantment and optimism. In 1992, when their separation was officially announced—along with the respective divorces of Charles' siblings Prince Andrew and Princess Anne—Queen mother Elizabeth bitterly lamented as the 40th anniversary of her ascension to the throne that it had all been "an Annus Horribilis."

But the very photogenic faces of Diana's children, Princes William and Harry, that shone at the funeral of Princess Diana held out the hope that the monarchy would be rehabilitated. Because the private lives of the Queen's siblings had embarrassingly embodied their respective variations of the emperor's new clothes, it was generally believed that her grandsons by Diana would harness their beauty, innocence and good sense to rescue the stalled monarchy and provide it a new spring. It was truly real new clothes.

And they have not disappointed. William and Harry have behaved well and avoided being fodder for the scandal-swaggering British press. And on April 29, William will marry career-seeking Kate Middleton, rewedding the monarchy with the windfall of a romantic wedding. An opinion poll Monday by the Guardian newspaper, meant to be supportive of the monarchy, showed 81 percent of those questioned agreeing that Britain would be worse off without the royal family.

It's expected that the monarchy would squeeze just about every publicity pulp from the wedding. It helps that the media is a culture industry here made of the monarchy a spectacle. The UK and the world population of those hoodwinked for everything royal constitute what the French thinker Guy Debord calls the "society of the spectacle," in which all forms of human communication are replaced by the consumption of images. Meanwhile, those in the Third World avidly watching the royal spectacle would unwittingly experience the paradox of globalization—as more borders fall with the ease of communication.

Another form of spectacle will happen in Rome on May 1, when Pope Benedict XVI beatifies his well-loved predecessor, John Paul the Great. Like the British royal family, the Holy See hopes that the celebration would help the Church banish its image—badly damaged by pedophile priest scandals in the United States and Europe. But it's unsure whether the society of the spectacle would apply to the Church since spectacle and fetishism are forms of capitalist development hardly can be ascribed to an institution that has historically resisted unfettered capitalism and the more godless aspects of modernity.

"Spectacle" for the Church pose by the name of liturgy in which signs and symbols, linked with words, converge in categories of meaning and value. And since the Church claims to be universal as to include not only all races and peoples living today, but also the Church triumphant in Heaven and the Church suffering in Purgatory, the beatification of someone who has passed on and universally acclaimed since then as among the heavenly elect is one spectacular show of all-encompassing communion, a truly borderless world. If there was one. At the least, it's a miracle that could only be granted to an institution that's 2,000 years old and still thriving against all odds.

Publisher ISAGANI YAMBOT
Editor-in-Chief LETTY JANE-J. PETILLA
Managing Editor JOSE NO. D. TORRES
Associate Editors MARGARITA S. GUANZON
Assistant Editor for Broadcasting ROLANDO R. CARANDANG
Opinion Editor JOSEF F. ANIAG
Special Editors ARMANDO T. DOMINGUEZ • Chief Copy Desk Operations ROLF R. PLANAS
Chief News Page Desk MARIA D. HANNAH
Features Editor FRANCISCO R. SUMAYAO JR.
Senior Desk Editor JOAN F. SANDOVAL
Editorial Consultant AMANDO DOROTEO
Chief Photographer ERNIE G. SUNGAHID
Art & Design Director LAWRENCE D. VILLAMIN
Board Chairman MARIAN R. PARDO
President ALEXANDER PARDO-ARANETA JR.
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing ROBERT R. PARDO
Vice President for Advertising JOSE M. OLANDO
Vice President for Administration and Finance JOAN G. LIMPO
Vice President for Production JOSE M. VILLARIBA
Ad Vice Circulation MARITES JOANNE S. CALLEJO
Corporate Affairs Manager CONRAD R. ALCANTARA

All rights reserved. Unauthorized reproduction, use, or distribution of any content in this publication without the express written consent of the Philippine Daily Inquirer and/or the author/creator is prohibited. Fair use of news articles is allowed for personal and non-commercial purposes.

Senator Lacson to DILG after 2013?

AS I SEE IT

Sassa M. Cruz

SEN. PANFILO Lacson is reportedly at the behest of the Interior and Local Government? The sets the tab in the celebration of the Eighteen 10 Months at the Diamond Hotel last Monday, though it was never announced formally by Aquino that he can avail 13th pick, during the dinner, if Lacson would accept the position if it were offered to him by President Aquino. The speculations surfaced because of the very positive vote on the confirmation of Mar Roxas as Secretary of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and other secretary Jesse Robredo who was put in charge of the Philippine National Police but who has been invisible since the hostage crisis at the Luneta. Either Pnoy, not only has the PNP been mauled in governing crimes, by and small, some of its members have been involved in crime and corruption. So the order of all that, Pnoy has been so silent that there are people who are wondering whether or not he is really alive.

In the Robredo scenario among his other responsibilities which is agriculture modernization, but he believes like a zombie. The reason is simple: the thousands of ghost employees in the payrolls of Quezon City councilors. The title imposed by former late Sen. Nene Pimentel and co-author-Senator and former Pangasinan governor Iroy Fox. Robredo's retention was at least, as if he is ahead of the committee.

The other high profile case is the reinstatement of the Office of the Ombudsman for the resignation of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez. Deputy for administration of public funds Mr. Jesse P.113 million of Special Education Funds (in just one birthday party when he was still mayor of Davao City. Robredo's retention not saying.

The title in the Espinosa children was that Lacson's second term in senate would be ending in 2013, and he is barred from running for a third term. Pending latest is the first PDP-Laban party would die unhappy PDSy have discussed with him the possibility of his taking over the DILG post?

Trials

THERE'S THE RUB

Commodo de Quintos

RIZAL LIGIRAY (ex) 39Sep a going over board and flouting the law in his campaign against the Ombudsman.

"He sent by publicist and campaign for[illegible] through campaign speeches being prepared by President Aquino for the ouster of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez directly in Barasoy and destroy the discourse and judgment of senators who are prejudged to act like Pontius Pilates to subject their decision to the court for all public opinion.

The actions, publicly and intentionally campaigning for the impeachment of the Ombudsman, President Aquino has violated the Constitution, which enforces reserves to and trust on Congress the power to impeach and remove impeachable officials."

Well, it's a fine accusation coming from someone who helped kill the impeachment bid against Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for the far bigger crime of stealing the vote. Who would have believed that Ligiray, who is a lawyer, economist, and here, in addition, defense valiant the Constitution by going the rounds of Congress to persuade the congressmen to cause and raid, by hook and by crook, to insure and humiliate those guilty, to say goodbye to "Public Guilty" that is impeached? Only if that did not threaten the discretion and judgment of the congressmen, but the House during 1990s and Lagman's time was known only to cry at the Bush of guilt, "Noise democracy in session."

If Rex is still unfair his rights to go around town, especially at the campuses, campaigning against nominations, and campaigning specifically against the Ombudsman who has been party to that corruption, if only by consequence of silence, I think he should go out on campaign against SSS who is really the source of this scourge, the suffocating of this conquest, the source of those who has shown this country to mess? Which is to say I would be would become more aggressive and not less in, more confident, to and not less in, more abrupt and not less in. But I guess I'll just have to wait. In fact in this scene no window, or no mirrors.

Diamond Hotel is filled to the rafters with journalists and fans, as happened again last Monday.

The other topic that took up the time of the Kapihan sa Diamond was the September elections. Ex-officio Manila Bulletin columnist Jesse Corpuz, former Mayor Alfredo Lim, Vice Governor Ramgen Revilla and Bishop Rodolfo Juan, chairman of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente for the Diocese of Sampaloc, Pandacan, Port Area and Intramuros, were all there to argue for the 501 bill. Since Bishop Juan was for it, Bishop Juan heads an association of non-Catholic religious groups. Unfortunately, Catholic clergy, who vehemently oppose the 501 bill, are the ones absent debating the 501 bill in public. They would rather confine themselves to church pulpits and to tossing pious statements.

Hushed down as the story going, those in favor of the 501 bill say that families should be allowed to decide for themselves the size of their families, in public service affect public career, poor families can they would like to limit the number of their children as they cannot support too many. But that they didn't limit them. The 501 bill would allow the government to teach them how, but the decision would still belong to the parents.

Those opposed to the 501 bill say that it is primarily religious and moral. Artificial birth control, the Church believes, prevents or terminates life in the womb, which is against the law of God. That, they say, is tantamount to murder.

The Church is not opposed, however, to natural birth control, which means restrictedly having sex only during the "safe" periods, and "self-control" during the "unsafe" periods. Unfortunately, self-control is very hard to control when it comes to sex.

How about sleeping pills taken by the man a half-hour before going to bed? The Church does not oppose that. And if he takes Zonrox 100 percent effective. So why don't the two sides agree to use sleeping pills?

Camp Crame faces 'backhoe' threat

EVELIN A. decades-national government intervention, Crame Crame, headquarters of the 120,000-strong Philippine National Police, faces possible demolition by backhoe—that demonic machine that twisted under-mounted to overtake it. Because, unarmed civilians slaughtered in Maguindanao by gunmen of the Ampatuan clan's private army.

Last April 25, the National Historical Commission met specified a number recognizing the historical significance of the role of the four barrios using in the demolition of the compromise of Ferdinand Marcos as a result of the February 1986 People Power Revolution. "With the historical evaluation submitted to Camp Crame," NHC chief Maria Serena Diokno said, "it deserves preservation recognition to serve as an inspiration to all police men." The unveiling of the marker was a planned attempt to counteract the effect of the small-fire memories of the Aquino administration's plan to sell two key military camps in three months—Camp Aguinaldo and Camp Crame—to raise revenues to finance its ambitious social welfare programs.

But NHC executive director Ludovico Badoy said there recognized historical sites are "already protected by law," and "[i]t would be hard for the government to sell [them] for quick sale." The NHC is now in the process of declaring Crame as a heritage site in the wake of his much-loved action to save old premises mastered by the family and political heirs of dictator Ferdinand Marcos to leave his body buried in the Libingan ng mga Bayani (Cemetery of Heroes), which is also located in a military reservation.

The significance of both Camp Aguinaldo and Camp Crame—the heart of the country's military defense complex—is that they were initially used against the Marcos regime during its Aguinaldo, when Marcos' Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile, their vice chief of staff Vidal Ramos Tanchoco and other key personnel launched the Feb. 22, 1986 mutiny, led by then lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan, withdrawn their support for the Marcos government, igniting the popular revolution against the dictatorship. Camp Crame, the last

ANALYSIS

Armando Doronila

bid of this plan to dispose of the two camps, was the active duties of the military defection operations against the dictator regime. It was to that camp where Enrile, although already relieved from under his jurisdiction, to join the rebellion—which was mainly the mobilization of Philippine Constabulary (PC) and his force units against the Marcos loyalist forces mostly composed of Army soldiers and Marines, most of whom were delivered to join the rebellion centered in Camp Crame.

Ramos, breaking his silence, said the recognition of historical sites is "already protected by law," but "[i]t would be hard for the government to sell [them] for quick sale." The NHC is now in the process of declaring Crame as a heritage site in the wake of his much-loved action to save old premises mastered by the family and political heirs of dictator Ferdinand Marcos to leave his body buried in the Libingan ng mga Bayani (Cemetery of Heroes), which is also located in a military reservation.

The significance of both Camp Aguinaldo and Camp Crame—the heart of the country's military defense complex—is that they were initially used against the Marcos regime during its Aguinaldo, when Marcos' Defense Secretary Juan Ponce Enrile, their vice chief of staff Vidal Ramos Tanchoco and other key personnel launched the Feb. 22, 1986 mutiny, led by then lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan, withdrawn their support for the Marcos government, igniting the popular revolution against the dictatorship. Camp Crame, the last Commonwealth Government was inaugurated, covers 178 hectares. It is the site of the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Department of National Defense, as well as the National Capital Regional Command, among other institutions. Camp Crame was established in 1938, as PC headquarters. The PC was constituted on Aug. 8, 1901, under the auspices of the American civil government, by the Philippine Commission, an appointed body to accomplish the pacification of the country. The PC was force with the participation of the Philippine Constabulary listed in the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. The battle of Bessang Pass, on Dec. 6, 1902 by Colonel Walter Loring upon the surrender of Governor William Howard Taft, who was known as a much lover. The PC band affirmed in the eyes of the Americans that the Filipinos were a civilized people with artistic and political inclinations, not backward savages.

The camp is named after Rafael Crame, who was appointed chief of the constabulary in 1917.

In 1936, a large part of land was acquired by the Quezon administration to construct the for future use as military camps. Under the National Defense Act of 1935, the PC became the backbone of the Philippine Army.

The Ferdinand Marcos administration's officials agreed that the two camps "absolutely [could] be interchanged in order to build a better and bigger site of a consolidated military facility and modernize the armed forces." It is estimated that the government can raise P15.5 billion from the sale of the two camps.

Gen. Jaime Arevas is not impressed by these dazzling claims. He says the sale of military camps in the past have benefited only the Armed Forces, citing the case of Fort Bonifacio and Villamor Air Base. He says the sale of these camps has not helped modernize the Armed Forces and has promoted instead the global city in San Buenaventura in the province of Laguna.

When the backhoes start to draw the privatized assets, these wrenched machines would become the symbols of mass slaughter of human beings and demolition of engineering monuments.

Palawan, Jan-Jan and Dra. Honey

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

BEFORE LISTENING to Dina Lopez address the "Raising Pilipinas as Nation" media forum, all I knew of Palawan was that it was the country's "last frontier" of exotic wildlife, a tourism destination, and a truly beautiful island.

But after listening to Dina's fascinating—and heartbreaking—stories and tell, I knew beside that Palawan is also an extremely fragile island haven by the threat of mining. Moreover, it seems, particularly in the province of Puerto Princesa, where the city is lined up waiting for permission to import the mining equipment to get at our mineral resources. Its Mayor is deeply, especially vulnerable.

So Lopez explained it: "Mining is island specific. Palawan is long and narrow, so it has a small island sea system, narrow in area and with a "very steep" topography. But even more important is the wealth of bio-diversity to be found in this island. Palawan is the "last frontier" of wildlife and biodiversity in the so-called flora and fauna. Likewise, Palawan has also led the way in tourism, with gorgeous beaches and lagoons as well as the world-class diving around the island.

But the threat of mining to this part of nature's bounty may. There are currently 629 mining applications in Palawan, said Lopez, and both political and national authorities seem inclined to grant these applications. Lopez, who is from Palawan—and the wife of country—she explained, which is one much more than nuclear and exploration than mining, even if many of the new investors climbing into the 5-ton bandwagon are outside.

* * *

TO REALIZE how much damage mining can inflict on an archipelago such as ours, Lopez showed us photos of the devastation caused by mining projects in Palawan. If video the **perennial featured men and women farmers recalling their "last paradise" of fertile rice fields drowned when mine tailings and other harmful** from mine operations gathered their rivers and streams.

Photos of strip-mining operations also showed hillside landscapes of bare rock and crags surrounding what's colored contaminant

take blind with mercury, arsenic and other toxic metals.

To convince the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Palawan provincial government to halt the destructive rush of mining in the province, the "Save Palawan Movement" is gathering 10 million signatures to convince them to "Stop Mining in Palawan." Since last May, Lopez said, the movement has managed to gather 1, 18 million signatures, and 100,000 more to add pour soon.

* * *

THE journey of Jan-Jan Sisio, the 4-year-old boy whose story made him a TV show guest and a favorite over TV soundbites and child abuse, are using psychologist Dr. Honey Cacanding and several institutions to child abuse.

In their consultation, a supplement to their earlier complaint filed, the latest people said the "undue publicity" over Jan-Jan's TV appearances caused the boy and his family "grave emotional and mental distress." They argued that Jan-Jan was "put on display" and "exploited" by those who were publicly spread in the media" and that he was "pressed" at his TV appearances. But since the supreme executive engaged, the last has become "depressed and withdrawn."

I wonder if Jan-Jan's parents, before their lawyers ignited their lawsuit, ever felt any guilt about exposing their son not just to controversy, but also to public ridicule. After all, as they claim, it was their mother's 911 emergency call, remember, that Jan-Jan's aunt brought him to the TV studio and caused him to flunk a test "tracks of pressure" number, to which both the host and audience reacted with laughter, jeering and vocalizing. It was not so much the dance per se that got so many people riled up, but the response to the cruelty boy's performance, which for was made to do again and again.

Child? Child abuse? Who committed the original sin here? Who taught Jan-Jan to dance that way in the first place? And who egged him on to dance on TV in exchange for P10,000? And just wonder who the boy is now upset such commercials?

* * *

THE rest of the hunt couple just goes to show how a lost clue was meant to protect children from abuse and exploitation could be twisted and perverted, such that it is now used to harass and persecute those who dare to speak out against an act of child abuse.

Doctor Cacanding is extremely she made target of those using to her criticism of the incidents, including the DSS Foundation. Standing for "Young Senators my Book" as "Mothers Defenders" and "Fathers for Justice," the group has been quite unnerving to orphaned parents, and in this process of recovery, Doctor Cacanding has, in the words of DSS, "volunteered to helping to heal and cope with our pain ... many parents have gotten in touch with her through limited, personal time.

"It is unfortunate that recent attacks on her have become vicious and personal," added the statement. "Some of the doctor did was "express her honest assessment of the incidents as a professional."

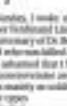
When a respected professional can no longer speak out when she witnesses an act of child abuse, that is the time when our country would have lost its soul. The quality of a nation is judged not by its strength, but by the way it looks after its weakest citizens, and no one could be weaker than a vulnerable child.

Bobby

ON EASTER Sunday, I woke up to find a text message from history professor Ferdinand Llanes, mentioning that it was the 25th death anniversary of Dr. Bobby de la Paz, a physician and personal friend who was killed in Cotabato, Jamaa.

I felt almost ashamed that I had forgotten, especially given all the events commemorate around heroes and heroism. My minds of heroes usually are soldiers one, so battle fields and forget many other types

of heroism, including fighting for people's rights. Bobby was one of those heroes, choosing to be a physician to the poor, and giving up his life because of that choice.



PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

Southern Mindanao is in Fil- was born in 1932. His father was a physician and his mother a nurse. He grew up in Malabon and went to UP for medicine, graduating in 1957. The year he graduated, the dean of the college of medicine, Dr. Florentino Herrera, challenged the graduating class to think of serving the poor. Herrera mentioned the UP Institute of Health Sciences, which had just been set up in Tacloban, and the dearth of more convenient-based approaches to health care.

Bobby and his girlfriend, Sylvia Cruzada, took up the challenge. In 1958, they were married. Within the next few months—she in Dumaguete and she in Samar, both impressed down to Samar. They returned to Manila, married and, within a few weeks, were back to serve Samar. Bobby went into private practice while Sylvia worked for MARE's maternal-child government organization/foundation (the late Dr. Miles Fields ran the Samar office). Their children, particularly Ferdinand, was also working for ASAP in that time, which was how I came to know Bobby and Sylvia.

Word spread about this strange couple working in Samar, serving the poor when the free and making in patients no matter what the time of day or night. The couple's home in Maqueda was usually militarized and in Bobby's time, the turbulent intersection of villages to run off supports for the New People's Army. Surely, the distant event, this couple must have links with the New People's Army. It was hard for people to imagine doctors serving the poor.

Bobby and Sylvia were under surveillance and as Catholics became more militarized, they finally had to move to Cotabato, but continued to serve the poor in adjoining towns. The surveillance continued and the head office of AKBP in Manila warned to pull their son, but they insisted on staying, with their growing family. They were to have six children.

On the afternoon of April 25, 1992, at around 4:30, they long one from the De la Paul's clinic. Moments later Bobby staggered out of the clinic. Bobby was eventually brought to the hospital where 11 doctors operated on him for seven and a half hours. He had 22 external wounds, 11 of which were ninety inches of bullets, including the T3 orthosis, pierced vein. The bullets had to be taken; lungs, liver, stomach and colon, and fractured the radial bone on the right arm. Outside the hospital, people came from all over, including Bandala, in large rigid, offering money, offering blood donations. Around, Bobby received 30 bags of blood transfusion, blood donated by the people he had served.

Bobby died on April 28, ninety after midnight. At around 4 a.m., a nun, packing a priest, swaggered into the hospital asking if he was dead, and when his wife was. A few hours later, a military spokesman came on air and declared he was assassinated by the NPA.

I will spare you the terrible details of how the military stalled on the investigations around Bobby's death, until the family decided to drop the case, knowing nothing would come out of it. Bobby's killer was never found, despite several eyewitnesses. Sylvia was in Manila when she heard. And whispered a description to Sylvia, as he was dying: "mostly, mustached, wore hats."

Shortly after Bobby died, at around 4 a.m., a man in T-shirt and shorts walked into the hospital asking if Dr. de la Paz was dead, and another who came soon. Witnesses said the man was armed and wore Tagalog. Later, a local reporter, he was struck, he had a moustache, and he had worn hats.

Jo-ann Maglipon wrote about Sylvia's speculation that Bobby's killer "is a professional... trained, hired, legitimized by uniform and organization, a mission long shielded off to nobody, to no one, to himself made obsolete by the powers that were him."

Bobby and Sylvia chose to serve in Samar after their assignment there as rural doctors. Then, as now, the Eastern Visayas region had one of the highest poverty incidences—about 50% of families are below the poverty line. In 2006 regions, with almost half of the populations living below the poverty line. Bobby and Sylvia knew how this translated into hunger and illness, into death rates for infants and children, and for infectious diseases like tuberculosis that were much higher than the national average.

In Bobby's funeral, Sylvia talked about how she and Bobby had seen the poverty and Samar's wealth in terms of natural resources: "we saw all that things and it was difficult to close our eyes..."

I thought of how the 25 years have caused so quickly, but how so many of the problems have persisted. Over the weekend I received a report on the threat of forester Leonardo Co, killed a few months ago in Leyte while conducting scientific work for a logger company. The military blamed his death on the New People's Army, this time in a mistaken encounter. The report I got through e-mail was done how his friends had undertaken to do their own investigations. Leonardo was involved with community-based health programs in younger years, researching on medicinal plants.

It was also during Holy Week when I got a report about Dr. Jason Ivarra, former minister of the Philippine Collegian as the editor of the Philippine Collegian, activist, and a human rights activist. Late 30s, 13, he was arrested in San Jorge, Samar, while on a human rights investigation mission. He was tortured, and was with a barangay official for the military district he had explosives. He was held for three days before the military filed charges, claiming he had explosives. Ivarra is still detained in a Calbiga jail.

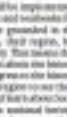
Remember.

I went into the internet to get details around Bobby's assassination and stumbled on utilizingbobby.org, which had scanned copies of some clippings from years back. I was in the United States during Bobby's death, which was how I first heard of it, and my mom came family from letters and phone calls. Seeing the newspaper clippings only now, with photographs of Bobby and his family, became an emotional road for me.

Three articles were particularly useful: one by Jo-Ann Maglipon, family background on Sylvia's online Sylvia, interview by Ellen Tordesillas looking into Bobby's medical practice as a "country doctor," and a third one from the Collegian column log of interviews from Cynthia de la Paz, Bobby's mother.

Email: mtan@inquirer.com.ph

Been there, done that



LOOKING BACK

Antonio M. Ocampo

ing. Don't worry your sons, your efforts don't matter," Ilse replied. "They'll have nothing to do ones who get the merchant."

One of the strangest hope will be implemented what we wrote out cute letters and textbooks for K-12 is that students must be grounded in the basics of reading, writing, arithmetic. But to hate the basic "national" history. This means that in the primary grades they learn about the history of their barangay first, and progress to the history of towns, cities, provinces and regions to see their place in the nation. They should learn about national heroes before they learn about national heroes. They should be taught in their language, their mother tongue, before they are taught Filipino and English (and Spanish too, if available).

I have long wished to say: I have married the Philippines from Aparri to Jolo, from the north's extreme tip and the Batanyan islands, all the way down south to disaster Sibalonsay islands where you can see horses and travel there on a banca. So when an invitation came for me to visit Tawi-Tawi I readily accepted. I really had wanted to see the famous composition of the Armed Forces from the rapport of the people."

The murders and flames' reaction came as a reminder to President Aquino's cynical response to the attacks launched by Islamic political base against the political ideology of Edsa, which was espoused by the President's mother, the late President Cory Aquino. The opposition to the plan to sell the camps, possibly to real estate developers and shopping center giants—has started to flush up in Congress.

On Jan. 7, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima announced that the government was planning to privatize prime government real estate assets, including Camp Aguinaldo and Crame. Both camps have a total land area of 208 hectares. Camp Aguinaldo, established in 1936, when the Commonwealth Government was inaugurated, covers 178 hectares. It is the site of the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Department of National Defense, as well as the National Capital Regional Command, among other institutions. Camp Crame was established in 1938, as PC headquarters. The PC was constituted on Aug. 8, 1901, under the auspices of the American civil government, by the Philippine Commission, an appointed body to accomplish the pacification of the country. The PC was force with the participation of the Philippine Constabulary listed in the St. Louis Exposition in 1904. The battle of Bessang Pass, on Dec. 6, 1902 by Colonel Walter Loring upon the surrender of Governor William Howard Taft, who was known as a much lover. The PC band affirmed in the eyes of the Americans that the Filipinos were a civilized people with artistic and political inclinations, not backward savages.

The camp is named after Rafael Crame, who was appointed chief of the constabulary in 1917.

In 1936, a large part of land was acquired by the Quezon administration to construct the for future use as military camps. Under the National Defense Act of 1935, the PC became the backbone of the Philippine Army.

The Ferdinand Marcos administration's officials agreed that the two camps "absolutely [could] be interchanged in order to build a better and bigger site of a consolidated military facility and modernize the armed forces." It is estimated that the government can raise P15.5 billion from the sale of the two camps.

Gen. Jaime Arevas is not impressed by these dazzling claims. He says the sale of military camps in the past have benefited only the Armed Forces, citing the case of Fort Bonifacio and Villamor Air Base. He says the sale of these camps has not helped modernize the Armed Forces and has promoted instead the global city in San Buenaventura in the province of Laguna.

When the backhoes start to draw the privatized assets, these wrenched machines would become the symbols of mass slaughter of human beings and demolition of engineering monuments.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

Congratulations to the High School Class of 2011

PATTS
College of Aeronautics

invites you to prepare for a career in aviation

Courses Offered:

- BS Aeronautical Engineering
- BS Aeronautical Engineering
- BS Aviation Management
- BS Aviation Management
- BS Aviation Maintenance Technology
- BS Aviation Maintenance Technology
- BS Aviation Technology
- Barrel Graduate Course (2 year course)

PATTS soars to greater heights with its newest course

B.S. Industrial Engineering

PATTS College of Aeronautics, Lombos Avenue, San Isidro, Parañaque City
Tel.: (632) 825-8823 • Telefax: (632) 825-8824
www.patts.edu.ph

TV segment showing 'amusing rape' callous

LETTERS

asean ka pupunta?

Grab our low seat sale fares to ASEAN destinations & more!

Sale Period: Apr. 26-27, 2011 • Travel Period: Jun. 1- Aug. 31, 2011

DOMESTIC SEAT SALE — SeaFARE

₱399 Manila to Virac

₱499 Manila to Legazpi or Naga

INTERNATIONAL SEAT SALE — SeaFARE

₱999 Manila to Kota Kinabalu; Clark to Singapore

₱1,499 Manila to Brunei, Ho Chi Minh or Singapore; Cebu to Singapore

₱1,999 Manila or Bangkok or Kuala Lumpur; Clark to Bangkok

₱2,499 Manila to Jakarta

DOMESTIC — SeaFARE		INTERNATIONAL — SeaFARE	
₱589	Manila to Caticlan (Boracay), Iloilo or San Jose (Mindoro)	₱1,599	Clark to Hong Kong
₱649	Manila to Bacolod, Calbayog, Catarman, Cebu, Iloilo or Tuguegarao; Cebu to Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Dumaguete, Iloilo or Tacloban	₱2,099	Manila to Guangzhou or Taipei
₱699	Cebu to Kalibo or Surigao; Manila to Cagayan de Oro	₱2,599	Manila to Hong Kong or Macau; Cebu to Hong Kong; Clark to Macau
₱749	Manila to Puerto Princesa, Tacloban or Tagbilaran; Cebu to Davao		
₱999	Manila to Dumaguete, Laoag or Davao		
₱1,099	Manila to Boracay (Caticlan) or Legazpi (Daraga); Cebu to Boracay (Caticlan), Butuan, Clark, Bipolog, Puerto Princesa, Siargao or Zamboanga; Davao to Iloilo	₱4,099	Manila to Busan* or Incheon; Cebu to Busan or Incheon; *Seasonal, flight starts on June 15, 2011
₱1,299	Cebu to General Santos or Pagadian; Manila to Zamboanga	₱4,599	Manila to Beijing or Shanghai
₱1,449	Manila to Cagayan de Oro, Davao or Zamboanga; Cebu to Legazpi	₱5,999	Manila to Osaka
₱1,849	Manila to Butuan, Calbayog, Bipolog, General Santos, Ozamiz, Pagadian or Surigao		

Quoted fares are one way. Limited availability. Fares are non-refundable. Fares are exclusive of government fees, taxes and fuel surcharges. Flight changes may be made more than 24 hours before scheduled time of departure. At time of booking, pre-purchase your baggage allowance to save time and money at check-in. Cebu Pacific Air's General Terms and Conditions of carriage apply and are available online at http://www.cebupacificair.com/Pages/Policies/GeneralTermsAndConditions.aspx.

Call 702 10 10 (PLDT) / 730 10 10 (Globe) / 892 70 70 (Smart) or visit the travel agent near you.

Like us on facebook.com/cebupacificair

Follow us on twitter.com/CebuPacificAir

WEB CHECK-IN! Go online to avoid the line!

CEBU PACIFIC AIR.COM

BDO

Is PH gov't turning tail in conflict-torn Bahrain?

De Lima, Soliman highest rated Cabinet execs

JUSTICE Secretary Leila de Lima and Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman find the highest performance ratings among Cabinet officials surveyed by Pulse Asia recently.

The survey conducted from Feb. 24 to March 6 and released Monday, also found that De Lima and Soliman were the only officials to receive an approval rating of more than 50 percent out of the 17 Cabinet secretaries and other government officials questioned in the poll.

De Lima received an approval rating of 61 percent while Soliman received 59 percent.

In Lima and Soliman were followed by President Benigno Simeon Aquino III (49 percent), Socioeconomic and Development Planning Secretary Cayetano Paderanga Jr. (40 percent), Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa Jr. (39), Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo (38), Public Works Secretary Rogelio Singson (37), Budget Secretary Florencio Abad (37), Presidential Management Staff Chief Julia Abad (37 percent), Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima (37), Trade Secretary Gregory Domingo (36), Presidential Communications Development and Strategic Planning Secretary Ramon Ciamming (26 percent), Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin (34), and Presidential Communications Operations Secretary Herminio Coloma (33).

Also performance-rated were Philippine National Police Director General Jesus Versoza (29 percent), Armed Forces of the Philippines Chief of Staff Ricardo David Jr. (28), and Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales (25).

Inquirer Research

NEXT BEST THING After Kate's picture as bride she Mexico cut sick of Prince William and Mr. Middleton, Kate Middleton, after the original current was stolen from the Hotel Windsor in Melbourne, Australia, which offered a royal wedding package in a "strictly" Victorian style. —

Britons feel they're better with royalty, survey shows

From page A1

LONDON—As preparations step up for the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton, an opinion poll on Monday showed two-thirds of British people believe the country is better off because of the royal family.

However, only 17 percent said they were "genuinely interested and excited" by Friday's nuptials.

There was a bustling scene around Westminster Abbey, where the wedding ceremony will be held, as technicians prepared equipment for the world's media. A three-metre camera platform was being erected and dozens of TV reporters were already broadcasting to a global audience.

Opposite Buckingham Palace, a temporary stand has been built housing 22 glass-fronted TV studios, as fanatic patriots of green or that it intends to settle the town.

Rain, thunder

The prospect of the wedding appears to have given a boost to the royal family's popularity, with 61 percent of those questioned in a survey by The Guardian saying Britain would be worse off without the monarchy.

And three-quarters of the 1,000 adults questioned believe the royal wedding will give the country "a strong feel good factor," although only one-third of respondents said they were "genuinely interested and excited" by the forthcoming event.

With hundreds of thousands of people expected to line the wedding route, forecasters said days of unseasonably hot weather could give way to thunder and cooler weather, meaning the wedding could be hit by showers.

Forecasters said there could be rain and even thunder on the big day.

Glass coach

Rain would no doubt give one more fret for the crowds and the couple would leave Westminster Abbey in a glass coach, as did Prince William's mother Princess Diana and is travel to her wedding to Prince Charles in 1981.

If the weather is fine then they will use a horse-drawn open-top carriage.

Big screen televisions will relay all the day's action to an anticipated 220,000 viewers in Hyde Park and Trafalgar Square with champagne, Pimm's, wedding cake and a band all laid on to keep the party swinging.

No place for Sarah

The British media noted that while football star David Beckham was invited, there is definitely no place for Sarah Ferguson.

The ebullient ex-wife of Queen Elizabeth's second son, Prince Andrew, will make the wedding a bittersweet occasion for down-and-outs. Fraudsters, gropers and shoplifters, who will be attending.

Also among the 1,900-strong congregation at the abbey will be "Mr Bean" actor Rowan Atkinson, a good friend of William's mother Princess Charles.

It also emerged that a British Scandinavian 14-year-old Cameron Reilly has been removed from duties at the wedding after he described Kate as a "mash-up cow" on his Facebook page. AFP

Johor sultan coming for old time's sake

From page A1

chat at Harvard University in 1991 when the late Sen. Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino Jr., the Philippines' former country came to address the audience.

A fiery speaker, Senator Aquino was clapped in jail by the dictator Ferdinand Marcos when martial law was declared in September 1972. He was unexpectedly released to undergo a heart bypass in Boston in May 1980 and remained in the United States as an exile until January 1983 when he returned to Manila to rally a divided opposition against Marcos but was assassinated at the airport.

"There is no specific agenda. The would just be a visit for a formal. This is not an official visit. But King doesn't want the same person would. Probably just a courtesy call and a simple dinner in Malacca," said the President's aide, Amelia Oates Li.

No parade

Formally known as Sultan Ibrahim Ismail Ibni Almarhum Sultan Mahmud Iskandar Al-Haj, the visitor wants no parade. Given told the Inquirer, "I want to visit, not because and because of the Filipinos," she added, a quoted in saying.

"There wouldn't seem to a way of the Palace. Perhaps because the king already has many palaces in his country ... We're still thinking of how to keep him incognito," said Gov. Oates.

Gloria said the visit was considered after Mr. Aquino and the sultan talked to meet in the papers during his term visit. Their last March. Johor, Datin noted, is the Malaysian state nearest Singapore.

When Friday were to Singapore, a meeting was considered, but the sultan had already left for Argentina when Pilipino had Ave time," he said.

Later, the king called and said, "I want to see Noynoy in Manila. Tell him to invite me," Gloria quoted him saying. The sultan arrives on private jet that afternoon.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said the meeting will take place on Thursday afternoon.

Hanging out with Noy

Perhaps the palace was inspired by the president's obsession with Malaysia. Aquino in 1991 that he found himself a frequent guest in the Aquino home for the next two years.

"He was often in the house to eat. He was always in town, so called those foreigners them," said Aquino. "He looked like a typical college kid. He did and have casually dribble or pass. He was so career, nobody noticed it," Cruz said.

She recalled that she prayed "would hang out with Noynoy."

"They were always together because they were both boys," said Cruz.

"When we would go to the movies, he would join or in our darkest outings, it was very comfortable. There was no ambivalence at all. He did not act like royalty," she added.

Stalled car and 'hugong'

Gloria said there was one time when the late senator conveyed the sultan to a meeting along the highway when the engine worked out.

"Ninoy told the prince that he just had a chopper so he's not supposed to do some obeisance as king. Of course it was true. It was the reason he moved to Aquino in the first place," Gloria said.

Alba that time the prince apparently complained to Ave, "I had to push that car in the highway! I was the Crown Prince of Johor!"

Over time, Aquino's wife Cory was considered "hugong"—a glowing name—for the prince during one of his visits.

Apparently, it was unforgettable. So now, hugong is one of the things the sultan is looking forward to.

Decision on final journey

The Malaysian royalty's involvement in the political lives of the Aquinos would probably just be another proverbial footnote in Philippine history had it

SULTAN IBRAHIM II is still royal regalia as ruler of Johor in this photo from his Facebook account.

not been noted by journalist Ben Kimberenstein, an Aquino insider, in a piece Bob Thiess on the—"Aquino's Final Journey"—that the country took an unrecorded detour to Malaysia shortly after landing in Singapore from Los Angeles on Aug. 14, 1983.

"In Singapore, (Aquino) was met by the son of the Sultan of Johor and whisked across the border to Malaysia where he met with high-ranking officials from Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia to explain to why he was going home and what he hoped to achieve," part of Kimberenstein's NYT account said.

Davis recalled this incident vividly.

"Ninoy called me to move him in Singapore with the Crown Prince at that time. He was brought to Johor undetected because when he passed through immigration, he was escorted through the royal lane reserved for Malaysian royalty," Davis said.

"Supposedly we were to have lunch with the king. Now's either offered me money to Bimo. He told Ninoy, 'If I were you, if you like, you can go to the Philippines on the back of my jet. Have you Subah. We say we are gay people, my helicopter is yes will be safe,' he recalled.

Asylum offer rejected

But Ninoy reportedly answered, "Mr. Minister, I am a Filipino. I have to face through the least gates of my country."

Ninoy did tell the sibling he drove to see. The king was impressed he hoped to marry Bimo. As we had it at 4 p.m.," Cruz said.

"After that, we were escorted back to our hotel. Our room had security people inside. It was, what the king ordered," he added.

Gloria was not educated this detail. She said the sultan's father "was grateful to God for taking care of his son. So when he visited them in Johor, the sultan asked God to stay with them for a while."

Prior to this visit, the sultan's only prior visit to the country dovetails after the 1986 Edsa uprising.

"When he was about to get married, he came here in the Philippines. The prince wanted us to meet the princess. So we going to country," Cruz said.

Porsche gardener's car

Davis said the prince also went to Senator Aquino's ranch at Manila Memorial Park in Parañaque.

"He stayed at the Guidara Park Sheraton and paid a courtesy call on Cory," Gloria said.

"At this visit, the king said he will bring his eldest son who is now the new Crown Prince," Davis said.

Since the sultan is a known history enthusiast, Davis expects the two leaders to talk about race.

"The king has about 300 cars—Bentley, Rolls-Royce and Porsche. He was amazed about the fleet owned by President Aquino's second-hand Porsche. Where he comes from, a Porsche is what his gardener drives," Gloria said. With reports from Christine O. Avendaño

Kate won't have Di's problems

From page A1

Diana was when she married, she is 29, the equivalent age to Prince William, she is a more mature individual and she has the support of her family and her friends which is critical because the palace can overlook you up," Morton said.

Most importantly, he added, "Kate is marrying a guy who loves her."

No Camilla, this time

"When Diana walked down the aisle at St. Paul's Cathedral she was marrying not be a lady in a grey pillbox hat and a grey coat—Camilla Parker Bowles.

"She hoped that by the time she strolled the end of their three-and-a-half minute walk down the aisle, that relationship would be over. She was proved sadly wrong," Morton told Agence France-Presse in an interview at his London home.

Charles married Camilla in 2005, eight years after Diana and her bodyguard Dodi Fayed died in a car crash in Paris and 28 years since the prince had first met the woman who is the real love of his life.

The future is clearly more rosy for said two-thirds Kate Middleton—27-year-old Diana studied Arts "O-Level" right up to her wedding day in 1981—but Morton believes Charles is not typical of today's royal household.

'Footloose' book

"The world has moved on, the royal family has moved on to a degree. Even the Queen is on Facebook. The old generation has literally died.

"The new generation, Prince Edward, Prince Andrew, Princess Anne, Zara Phillips, are the crossing people.

"So I think that Kate is going to find it a lot easier in this new generation of younger royals."

In "William and Catherine, Their Lives, Their Wedding," Morton hints his attention to the new royal couple in a "Footloose" book which he will only complete on the day of the wedding before it is rushed into print.

He says he has managed to interview friends of Kate from school and university, breaking the protective silence which has fallen over the couple's close circle.

Slow burn personality

Kate have a "slow burn" personality which will "gradually emerge," he says.

"She is a steady person, very much a confidant, with a good sense of humour, but I would not predict you are going to see a steady sensitive side to her emerge in the years go by.

"There is a lot more to Kate than meets the eye. She has been stuck with the Waity Katy tag, the idea that she was hanging around waiting for Prince Harassing to come along and give her the ring."

Kiss on balcony

Jumping to her lack of a career pointed to commitment. But "she was not kicking through the glass ceiling, she was waiting for the glass slipper."

"So to that degree Kate has to prove herself. At that time in her life (at Kate's age now), Diana was dealing with AIDS patients, she was visiting hospitals, she was doing as useful for with her life," Morton said.

"I think Kate's challenge is to prove herself beyond wearing a nice frock."

But Dad things Kate, "If Kate is not pregnant in the first couple months, she'll be disappointing 200 years of royal tradition," he said.

Last invitation

Heaton will be at Buckingham Palace on Friday, harvesting every detail of Kate and William's kiss on the balcony—Just one author whose revelations about Diana shook the royal family will be looking in from the outside.

"For some bizarre reason, my invitation was lost in the post," he said with a mischievous smile. AFP

Comelec taste for solid narra beds hit hard

From page A4

For people allergic to scientific terms, the decision looks as simply unfair to the national treasure.

Environment lawyer Jose Gerardo Medina, in a letter to Comelec law department director Ferdinand Rabanes, pointed out that narra is an endangered species. Perhaps also to chairs the Comelec's bids and awards committee (BAC).

Medina particularly attacked the project's specifications—that the 11 voting room units, shielding shafts, secrecy "long-sized beds" and 11 "game-sized beds" be made of solid narra.

The invitation to bid on—worth about P2.68 million, is part of the P5-million project for the supply of furnishings for the Comelec's five colleges that the poll body approved last September.

The bids committee can then the project or approve the Comelec plans to hold another secrecy colleges.

"For the past three decades, the narra tree has been classified as an endangered species. Harvesting and utilization of which is highly regulated and is a serious crime punishable," Medina said.

"As such, specifying furniture to be made from solid narra would be encouraging the use of an endangered species across the board species and would run contrary to the policy of the national government in protecting the species," he said.

Critically endangered

Medina Bores in another bit of advice: "Perhaps Donald Jarlard Trump can clarify away from the use of endangered species and decide part including preserves the narra tree."

The late Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes in 2007 issued an administrative order establishing a "national list of threatened Philippine plants," Narra, along with ipil and molave, is among forty under the "critically endangered species" category.

Possible changes

Rabanes, in a phone interview, said no individual or company showed up to submit their bids by yesterday's 10 a.m. bidding deadline.

He said the bids committee may accept the secretions on the award narra set that he called a high BEAM official to advise.

"We were told that finished products of narra are not banned. The assumption is that they were crafted in compliance with our environmental laws," Rabanes said, adding there were some violations committed that many cultivate narra trees for commercial purposes.

"We may ask Bores head to change the specifications," he said.

Recycled wood

Medina suggested that the Comelec use products made of solid wood but rather of engineered wood or laminated boards which are equally as beautiful and functional," he said.

Rabanes said the Comelec may simply buy furniture priced at P150,000 and below, or settle for a negotiated contract if a second bidding fails.

The Switzerland-based International Union for Conservation of Nature, in its annual "Red List of Threatened Species," placed the status of narra under the "vulnerable" category.

It's come to this: Bishop calls them terrorists

From page A1

"If people vote because of money then it's almost like he's stealing [votes]," Nolasco said.

He said he wished the President would recall the "waiting and hoping, nothing corrupt" campaign promise "because those existing legislators that they will not receive their pork barrel if they will not support (SB) bills is a blatant corruption."

Malacañang has not issued any statement to the effect that the President would not release pork barrel to legislators against the bill.

President Aquino has said he was against abortion but he stood giving couples "the right to choose how best to manage their families."

Cebu Archbishop Emeritus Ricardo Cardinal Vidal said on Monday that it was futile for the Church to continue holding talks with Malacañang because "the government has already made up his mind on the issue.

Cavernous building needed

Sen. Gregorio Honasan II said the RH bill was "too critical" an issue for the Church or any sector to give up on consensus-building dialogue.

He said a "comprehensive national dialogue" among all sectors would guide both the House of Representatives and the Senate chief women's counsel by-one on the legislation.

"I disagree with the good Cardinal Emeritus [Vidal]. We can't give up on dialogue. If we presume that there is a stalemate and the positions have hardened, public interest will suffer," he said in an interview.

Honasan observed that after the dialogue between the Church, Malacañang, Congress and other sectors stopped, they had resorted to "media war."

Not the enemy

Malacañang yesterday said it was "not the enemy" of the Church in the debate on the RH bill.

Presidential spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said Mr. Aquino wanted the government to serve as a "referee" to those for and against it.

Lacierda said the Palace was ready to resume its dialogue with Cardinal Rosales despite his earlier call for the Church to back out from it.

"The Church should not look at the government as an adversary," he said at a briefing.

He said the President was "very open to a dialogue."

Focus on common ground

Lacierda noted that in late March, Palace and Church officials agreed to resume their dialogue after the Holy week.

"Let's focus on the common ground ... We're not the enemy here. We're trying to bring all the forces together and arrive at commonalities. And let's agree to disagree on certain areas, but let's explore on agreeable areas. And that's what it's possible, pero that in the bill," he said.

He said that was the reason "the President continues to believe in the dialogue with the Church as well as those who have pro-reproductive health bill."

The Palace earlier insisted the dialogue with the Church in an effort to include its inputs in the bill that would see couples being given information on all family planning methods so they could have an informed decision when planning the size of their families.

After their meetings, the Church backed out and lashed account a protest rally last month to pressure the RH bill.

Catholic bishops agreed to resume talks with the Palace upon Mr. Aquino's invitation after the big anti-RH rally in Rizal Park in Manila.

Other Christian groups

While the Church is against the RH bill, other Christian groups like the Iglesia ni Cristo (INC) support it.

Lacierda said the Palace welcomed the move of other Christian groups to support the bill.

The INC, which endorsed Mr. Aquino during the May 2010 elections, said it was "opposing Church's methods of controversy" not "as long as those methods are originally [sic] identical."

Unlike the Catholic Church, which promotes natural birth methods, the INC views them as "ineffective" and "opposing" since they counter "the commandment that God has given to mankind couples."

Protestant churches, including the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, United Church of Christ of the Philippines and the United Methodist Church, have also declared their support for the passage of the RH bill.

Avoid religious conflict

A priest said the Church would not argue with other religious groups promoting the measure to avoid religious conflict.

"The reproductive health bill is a moral issue so everybody has the right to speak on the matter irrespective of religion," said Fr. Melvin Castro, executive secretary of the CBCP's Episcopal Commission on Family and Life, yesterday.

He appealed in advocates of the bill to respect the Church that some investment groups in other Christian groups come to go promote its views on the bill.

When the Catholic Church speaks against the measure, they invoke the opposition of Church and State but other religious groups like the Iglesia ni Cristo they don't invoke it ... but so be consistent about it because we are all stakeholders in this issue," he said.

Former Sen. Francisco Tatad, a leading member of a public group, Democratic Right to Life Inc. in a position statement against using the RH bill to promote religious conflict.

"Those need not be any religious conflict arising from this," Tatad said at the weekly forum hosted by the Catholic Media Network in Intramuros, Manila, yesterday.

But he noted that the varying views on contraception held by the Catholic Church and other religious group "no real conflicts of positions."

"But the Church is not asking the State to enforce its teaching on population, it is simply saying that ... if you pass the bill, you are trampling on the basic beliefs of Catholics," Tatad said. *With reports from* Jeffrey Burgonio

Labor group wants paid leave for prenatal check

WITH THE Labor Code saying that incentives should be given to workers who plans the size of their families, the Partido ng Manggagawa (PM) labor group yesterday said that employees should get paid leave if they avail themselves of reproductive health (RH) services.

PM secretary general Judy Ann Miranda said the RH bill's proposal to provide half-day paid leaves for prenatal consultations would be a big relief to women workers.

"Women workers should not jeopardize their health to recharge for a half-day's worth of salary within six months of pregnancy," Miranda said in a statement.

She said that while DM and related the labor department's support for the RH bill to encourage employers to adopt the labor group did not believe that overpopulation should be blamed for the lack of jobs in the country.

"Government officials should neither blame overpopulation for the lack of jobs in the country nor believe that the RH bill is a solution to this problem. Unemployment is a function of bad economic policies not lack of family planning," Miranda said.

Not a population problem

"Beyond the use of incentives to encourage family planning is rash population growth, PM would rather that from using the population issue to obscure and disseminate information on sexuality and reproductive health as a health and human rights concern," she added.

Miranda said the labor department should also release its implementing rules and regulations "to the absence of a comprehensive government plan on job generation."

"The country's high unemployment rate is not simply a population problem that will be resolved by the RH bill," Miranda said.

"The direct profit for a minimum-wage earner of the RH bill is complete, accurate and relevant information, need affordable and accessible family planning and reproductive health care services and contraceptives," she added. *Philip C. Salaverria*

Cops get tip Pilar sis-in-law housemaid

From page A1

Agents of the Philippine National Police's Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) have determined that Daniel Lacsamana Pelias, 28, purchased the vehicle on Jan. 30 although it is still registered in the name of its former owner.

Chief Supt. Samuel Pagdilao Jr., the CIDG director, said Pelias bought the Kia Carens (CZ 6888) from one Romeo Jose dela Cuesta of Zaldarriaga, Calasiao City, for P680,000.

"How bought the vehicle is spot cash through an agent for Dela Cuesta," Pagdilao said in a press.

Policemen investigating the April 14 attack on Pilapil have put on final Pelias and the vehicle that he had claimed was used in the killing. Pelias is the husband to Nelson Pelias, a younger brother of Pilapil's husband Bernie Pelias.

Pagdilao said Nelson Pelias, who works for an investment company based in Dagupan City, did not know that his sister-in-law had purchased the vehicle—the same one she was supposedly seen driving near her former house in Sampaloc, Manila, a day after the attack on Pilapil.

Asked how police were able to relate the owner to the killing vehicle, Pagdilao said: "That's what we want to know. We will ask her about that once we arrest her."

Housemaid

On Monday, Pagdilao announced that Special Investigation Task Group (SITG) Pilar ordered Pelias a primary suspect in the stabbing attack on Pilapil and was now being hunted.

But what is further baffling the CIDG agents is the information that Pelias might have previously worked as a housemaid for a family in Metro Manila.

Pagdilao said a woman had sought the CIDG's assistance to search for a "runaway" maid who is related to Pelias for purportedly stealing jewelry and other valuables from her.

He said the "possible victim," whom he declined to name, claimed Pelias worked as a housemaid for her family about two years ago, and was able to identify Pelias through the photographs that the CIDG had released to the media.

"The woman said Pelias suddenly disappeared with her expensive jewelry and other valuables," Pagdilao said.

"The rests of events showed that the alleged housemaid of Daniel Pelias," he said, adding:

"We are requesting either victims to come forward and file a complaint against Pelias. We are consolidating all the testimonies of witnesses so we can file the appropriate cases."

Fabrications'

In a sworn statement earlier submitted to police investigators, Pilapil said Pelias had told her:

• That the vehicle was owned by Unilever Philippines and that she was a former employee of the Rexona Deodorant brand firm.

• That she had just returned from Australia.

• That on the night of the attack, they were to meet with Unilever's Australian executives at Manila's Intercontinental Center in Makati City for a possible business deal.

But Pagdilao said verifications made by the police with concerned government agencies showed that Pelias "fabricated everything she said to Pilapil."

Pagdilao said Pelias might have been trying to collect P40 million from her in-laws after her husband was sent a text message that "gave the impression" that she was kidnapped.

Can arrest?

Senior Supt. Joel Napoleon Coronel, chief of SITG Pilar, said Nelson Pelias seldom sees his wife because he was staying most of the time in Cebu.

Pelias, on the other hand, was staying with relatives in Intramuros, Manila, said Mayor Alfredo Lim.

Pagdilao also quoted Nelson Pelias as saying that he once saw an ID card with his wife's photograph and another name.

"Who else can arrest? I for part will not arrest anyone on this case," Pagdilao said the business.

But he conceded that "what we have now is pure speculation."

Pagdilao said investigators were also looking into the possibility that Nelson and the latter's wife might even who had attacked Pilapil belonged to a criminal group such as a car theft syndicate.

WHAT WENT BEFORE

IN 2004, CHITES assailed then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for allegedly authorizing the diversion of her presidential election campaign of some P4 billion from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Trust Fund to the Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth).

They said Owwa funds, amassed from the $25 collected from each departing overseas Filipino worker (OFW), supposedly for the PhilHealth insurance cards which Arroyo distributed during her campaign sorties all over the country.

Former Solicitor General Frank Chavez, then acting a Senate suit under Sen. Raul Roco's Aksyon ng Pag-ibig, sought the disqualification of Arroyo for allegedly using public funds for her campaign.

Malacañang however explained that the cards, which bore Arroyo's picture, were part of the President's electoral assistance to provide health insurance to poor Filipinos.

In 2005, almost a year after Arroyo won the vote, then Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. called for her impeachment, claiming the illegal use of Owwa funds. The impeachment complaint against her was later declared null for being insufficient in form.

Palace snubs inquiry

In July 2006, questions on the Owwa funds were revived when Philippine Ambassador to Lebanon Al Francis Bichara claimed that he had not received a single cent from Owwa for the evacuation of Filipinos from war-torn Lebanon.

The Owwa chief received $150,000 in Bichara, four days after his complaint got wide publicity in Manila, prompting the Senate department to call the inquiry.

However, government officials confirmed the Senate inquiry by invoking Executive Order No. 464, which required administration officials to seek authorization from Arroyo before appearing in congressional inquiries.

Health Secretary Francisco Duque III later told media that no irregularity attended the transfer of P520 million in Owwa funds to PhilHealth.

Duque explained that the first tranche of OFW contributions, P520 million, was transferred to PhilHealth on March 30, 2005, or 18 months after the May 2004 elections. Another P220 million was transferred the following month, he said.

He said the payment of the P520 million, which represented 15 percent of the total Owwa's Medicare fund, went to pay OFW claims in 137 hospitals. *Lawrence de Guzman, Inquirer Research*

Source: Inquirer Archives

GMA's plunder raps based on her notations

From page A1

Ocampo's sources said they prized the OFWs whose funds were being misused. He said this was in February 2004 before the presidential elections. He said the original documents could be ordered produced in court and his sources' name of which remained in government custody to some out in the open. The justice department can verify the documents' authenticity through the bar codes.

"They are kind-hearted, high-conscientious Filipinos who would no longer maintain the arrogance of corruption spawned by Malacañang," he said.

Days of reckoning

"Today is one of those days of reckoning. Ocampo thinks that they can run but they cannot hide. The long arm of the law will catch up with them no matter the influence of time," Ocampo said, repeating before filing the complaint in the Department of Justice.

Ocampo also named as respondents former Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, former Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth) president and chief executive officer Francisco Duque III and former Owwa administrator Hector Angeles.

It was the second suit brought against Arroyo this month.

On April 4, a P15-million suit was lodged against her and 10 others for illegal arrest and torture in connection with the not controller and could never have contributed to the direct and exclusive benefit of the 91 space overseas workers."

Additional criminal charges

Ocampo also accused Arroyo et al. of malversation and illegal use of public funds, qualified theft, and violation of Republic Act and Corrupt Practices Act, the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for public officials and employees, and a provision in the Constitution that says no levied for a special purpose "shall be used to a purpose other than that for which such special fund was created."

The plundered funds allegedly totaled P224.6 million, including P5.36.36 million from the Owwa Medicare Fund contributed to PhilHealth for treatment of overseas workers.

Each OFW pays $25 to Owwa on leaving the country. In March, the Senate budget office said the Owwa fund had totaled P23 billion, but the amount had been depleted because of the expenses, not of Filipino workers but of countries in the Middle East and Northern Africa.

Charges against a Sen. 20, 2002, letter of Duque to Arroyo, on the turnover of Owwa funds to PhilHealth. "The proposed fund transfer is also in violation of existing law," Duque said.

Charges against that the Owwa fund already provides for insurance coverage, among others, to the OFWs who have contributed to the fund, and thus the transfer to PhilHealth was "unnecessary."

US invasion of Iraq

He said the rest of the supposed plundered amount was used for the preparations of Philippine participation in the Middle East war, which the US led and ended Iraq, then led by the dictator Saddam Hussein, in March 2003.

According to Chavez, Romulo, in various factions in Angeles, sought the release of $293,500 in FY-03 funds for the purchase of vehicles and "modification" of the Philippine posts in Lebanon, Jordan, Oman, Bahrain, Egypt and Iraq as well as the release of P5 million for the upcoming expenses of the Philippine Contingent for assistance in Iraq.

Chavez said that in a July 2003 memorandum, Angeles ordered Owwa's General Financial Assistance Program which "stopped the processing" as well as the suspension of all of OFWs, which amounted to P18.5 million.

Chavez said $55,000 or P2.8 million was also taken from the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency/Owwa that contributed to the cost of the $213,000 needed by the Philippine post in Kuwait to prepare when the United States invaded Iraq.

Chavez said he filed his complaint to the justice department because nothing came out of his earlier filed in the Office of the Ombudsman.

MURA MATIBAY MAGANDA
P.O. MEMBER
NAVARRO PATENTED SCHOOL CHAIR
"Innovation is sustainable by law"
A.C. NAVARRO PATENTED PRODUCTS
M. Navarro St., Mandaluyong, Metro Manila
Tel.: 534-7171 • 533-0005 • Fax: 534-5000

Patrombon, Indian partner gain q'finals

SPORTS

The Smart pays less for the same service SMARTE Smart always prevails Be Smart

Hurting Alas powers Cebuana

By Jennifer M. Piqui

Coke Hoopla tomorrow

By Cedrik F. Tupas

TNT, Ginebra begin title tiff

Dream series odds almost even

By Herang B. Candila

ST. LA SALLE'S Kay Aplanca and Jayde Nunag put up a defensive curtain against Diandra Gonzales (out of UPV) in a prior day's match. ALBERT ECA (PCU)

St. La Salle lady tossers near semis

By Cedrik F. Tupas

'More than a fair chance vs Sri Lanka'

By Cedrik F. Tupas

PALLAD

Liga Pilipinas caging comes off the wraps

By Joni Mercene

PSC: Nat'l athletes must vie in National Games

By Marc Jhon Jamp Reyes

Greenhills Run listing on

PRIZED TOSSER Talk 'N Text court general Ronjay Enrico Buenafe shows the commercial team during the recent opening of the 2013 Mandaue & Veneti Athletic Association basketball tournament in Cebu City. For info regarding the tournament that seeks to keep the youth away from illegal drugs, visit Mandaue & Veneti Athletic Association Facebook page. INQUIRER CEBU

SPORTSWATCH

'Big Event' derby fires off tomorrow at WTJ

Pasay RCD San Luis 4-cocker gets going Friday

GRIZZLIES guard Mike Conley (center) thrusts the defense of Spurs teammates Antonio McDyess (left) and Tim Duncan. AFP

Grizzlies shock Spurs, go up 3-1

SEMIFIRES—Playoffs Conference top seeds San Antonio were pushed to the brink of elimination from the first round of the NBA playoffs after the Memphis Grizzlies took a 3-1 series lead with a 104-86 win over the Spurs on Monday.

In Dallas, the Mavericks took a 3-2 series lead over the Portland Trail Blazers after a 93-82 victory and will get the chance to close out the series in Portland on Thursday.

In Denver, the Nuggets avoided being swept by Oklahoma City by edging the Thunder, 104-101.

The Grizzlies finished the regular season eighth in the West and were not expected to be a major test for the Spurs but their Game Four win put them at a commanding position with one host of series to take.

The Grizzlies were too big and athletic for the Spurs and blew the game open in the third quarter where they outscored San Antonio, 30-13.

Mike Conley led Memphis with 23 points, with four others joining him in double figures, as the Grizzlies shot to an 8-for-8 FG/3pt/ft of series win.

"We've seen that doesn't get a lot of attention," Conley told reporters. "We've been relying games and we're able to beat good teams like San Antonio. We just have to do it one more time."

The Spurs got 20 points from Tony Parker but Tim Duncan struggled with just six points and seven rebounds.

The Mavericks blew a 23 point lead in the final 13 minutes of Game Four to lose on Saturday but regrouped with an inspired second half to take a 3-1 series advantage.

Dallas got 28 points from Dirk Nowitzki and 20 from Jason Terry as they outscored the Blazers 51-28 in the third to take control of the game.

Tj Lawson scored a career playoff high 27 points and JJ Smith and Danilo Gallinari hit clutch late shots as the Nuggets cut the series deficit to 3-1.

Reuters, AP

PRO-GYM
#1 in Asian Sports
www.progymsupersport.com
WORLD-CLASS EQUIPMENT TO MATCH YOUR BUDGET!
SEPTEM, INC.

Vasandani paces Jr. World q'fying

ILOILO VASANDANI III stamped the surprise leader in boys' Class A within one stroke per 72 as the Cebu-based Vasandani siblings stole the show in the first round Monday of the Junior World qualifying tournament of the ICTSI Asiapell Summer Circuit at the Legacy course of the Manila Southwoods in Carmona, Cavite.

Vasandani posted rates of 36-35 to take a one-stroke lead over the favored Anders Saldaña, who recorded a back nine charge to salvage a 74.

Andri Vasandani took charge in the girls' Class A division, three shots clear of the favored Dottie Ardina.

Vasandani's siblings were also within striking distance in the other divisions with sister Rachelle (77) just three behind in girls' Class B. Another sister Judy and brother Shaleah were just two back in girls' Class A and boys' Class C, respectively, in the event that makes two Philippine Airlines-bound Lee Legacies.

Maggy Tee, Johnrilen Lorenzo and Princess Ingreid Javier (Class B), Jennifer Arevalo and Mia Lapuga (Class C), and Abi Bristol Tilano and Bia-nale Corpuz (Class G) also won to be Class B field.

The ICTSI Asiapell Circuit organized by the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines is also supported by Hercules Resins, Starbucks Bros, Mizlin Hoppe, Dexter Jet, Gulf Depot, McDonalds, Dairy Farm, Farmers of Inc., golf, Allwood of Golf, and Inquirer Golf.

Tee and Lorenzo tied for third a 76 to share a three-stroke lead over last year's Junior World winners Rupert Mangonia Espinosa shot 74 to pace Class B (U-15) by two strokes. 76 put him ahead by four over Christopher Ray and Elizabeth Vasandani, Lapuga pulled up close of LD. Go after a 72. Tilano (80), was sick and each will be back on Tuesday. Corpuz also collected a 87 to go four up on Kristine Tumbiz.

The Iloilo
CLASS A: Boys – 72: Ilo Vasandani, 74 Anders Saldaña, 75 Jose Gelo Ebbs; 77 Gabriel Ardina, 78 Angelo Gonzales, 79 Pio Gonzales
CLASS B: Boys – 80: Christian Lorenzo, 81 Philip Tee, 82 Rupert Tanjangco, Jaden; 83 Patrick Tapiral, 84 Claudio Ilo, 85 Henry Higher-grade, 87 Charles Espinosa
CLASS C: Boys – 87: Jonathan Ardina, 88 Jonathan Ardina, 89 Jonathan Ardina, 90 Jonathan Ardina, 91 Jonathan Ardina, 92 Jonathan Ardina, 93 Jonathan Ardina, 94 Jonathan Ardina, 95 Jonathan Ardina, 96 Jonathan Ardina, 97 Jonathan Ardina, 98 Jonathan Ardina, 99 Jonathan Ardina, 100 Jonathan Ardina
CLASS G: Girls – 87: Abi Bristol Tilano, 91 Bianale Corpuz, 92 Kristine Tumbiz, 93 Princess Ingreid Javier, 94 Jennifer Arevalo, 95 Mia Lapuga, 96 Maggy Tee, 97 Johnrilen Lorenzo, 98 Jonathan Ardina, 99 Jonathan Ardina, 100 Jonathan Ardina

Buncio, Enriquez lead Suzuki-PH

By Hans Anthony Reyes

A PAIR of 22-year-olds will carry the Philippine flag on their shoulders when they compete for what will mean to the Asia Road Racing motorcycle championships that leg at the Sepang Circuit in Malaysia this weekend.

Hiram Greg Buncio and John Lory Enriquez bested the country's maiden venture into the Asian circuit on Sunday to claim its Team Suzuki Philippines. Buncio will compete in the Superbike 600cc category, while Enriquez will see action in the 115cc division.

Buncio, the four-time Superbike champ, said they are revved up to compete against the best riders in Asia and some competitors coming from Europe.

"I'm confident with my chances," said Buncio.

Official race team director Eji Inoue said Team Suzuki Philippines and Buncio and Enriquez "have what it takes to make it to the top and Suzuki will make sure they get there."

ALASKA RUN FEST 2011
RUN FOR FUN
We've got the fun you're looking for - the Alaska Ironkids Run Race for kids looking for serious fun and the Alaska Family Run where parents get to team up with their kids for a truly unique bonding experience! See you there!
MAY 7, 2011 • SM MALL OF ASIA
ALASKA IRONKIDS PHILIPPINES
Open to kids from 6 to 14 years old.
To register, visit www.ironkidsphil.com
ALASKA FAMILY RUN
Parent/Adult and Child Tandem
CATEGORIES:
3K: Parent & Child (4-6yo)
5K: Parent & Child (11-14yo)
Free registration for the first 1,000 pairs to sign up and free finisher's shirt for the first 1,000 pairs to cross the finish line for the Family Run.
TO REGISTER FOR THE IRONKIDS RUN RACE AND FAMILY RUN, VISIT THE FOLLOWING VENUES:
• Rumie, Bonifacio High Street: April 4 - May 1 • L Timesquare Greenhill (cash only): April 4 - May 1 •
SM Megamall Supermarket: April 29 - May 1
Registration Fee: P450 (Alaska Ironkids) • P500 per pair (Alaska Family Run)
www.alaskamilk.com.ph
Wala pa ring tatalo sa ALASKA

Experience *Venice* in All Its Romantic Splendor. Everyday.

At The Venice at McKinley Hill, indulge in romantic moments again and again and again. Feast your eyes on the very best of Italy's Venice at home. Look out your window and fall in love with the exquisite view of your very own St. Mark's tower. Make memories for two right on your doorstep, and let a gondola take you down the Grand Canal and under the Rialto Bridge. Afterwards, discover the charms of The Venice Piazza. From alfresco dining at The Boardwalk to sightseeing at Doge's Palace to shopping at the retail center—there's nothing you can't do or enjoy.

Let every experience come alive with a Venetian vibe. Only at The Venice.

Be part of the only Venetian-style setting in the heart of the metro:

- An upscale community nestled by Italy's famous romantic city, Venice
- Three-storey, each of the seven towers resembles a "Palazzo," the grandest ornamental home
- Overlooking the metro's first-ever, man-made Grand Canal, offering authentic gondola rides (Availability to be announced soon)
- One- to three-bedroom suites with fabulous
- A Mediterranean diet
- With easy access to the Venice Piazza, The Boardwalk retail strip and the Venetian-inspired Rialto Bridge, St. Mark's tower and Doge's Palace
- Nine exhilarating, international schools and a colleges
- Commercial developments Venice City and the Mercer Hub on the prestigious Upper McKinley Road

NOW OPEN AT THE VENICE PIAZZA:

THE VENICE

LUXURY RESIDENCES AT MCKINLEY HILL

Visit us at the McKinley Hill Information Center, Upper McKinley Road corner Finance Way, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila

Tele 815-1888 • 816-2768 • 816-3517

Another Outstanding Development by

MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Lituaday

DID YOU KNOW

ENG KAPUNAN ng mga tindahan ng Filipinas (KBP), the country's foremost broadcast media organization, was created exactly 39 years ago on April 27, 1972. Composed of owners and managers of radio and television stations in the country as well as the radio and television stations themselves, the KBP aims to improve the quality of broadcasting and set a standard for responsible and wholesome programs.
EDGAR I. Dandal, Inquirer Research

Ivler's mother cited for contempt

Judge fines Pollard ₱20,000 for challenging him to a fist fight in court

By Julie M. Aurelio

MORE than a month after she challenged a judge to a fist fight during a court hearing, Marlene Aguilar-Pollard—the mother of road rage suspect Jason Ivler—has been cited for contempt.

In an order dated April 15, Judge Rayam Vargas of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court Branch 219 found her guilty of indirect contempt and fined her ₱20,000.

"Aguilar-Pollard, for her actuation which was aired on the Channel 7 news on March 23 whereby the presiding judge of this court was challenged to a fist fight coupled with libelous remarks which has the effect of degrading the administration of justice to the trial of Ivler, is hereby adjudged guilty of indirect contempt," his order read.

At the same time, Vargas warned her that he would not tolerate any more outbursts or brutal hearings.

"[But] in likewise warned that any similar actuation would compel this court to impose the more strict sentence of imprisonment," he said.

A court staffer told the Inquirer that as of yesterday, Aguilar-Pollard had yet to pay the fine meted out by the judge.

Vargas issued the order after Ivler's mother, during a court hearing on March 23, dared him to fight her.

"Tumakbo na ang apo, ora-mismo! Ang Ever's fight, pan one-mouth, judge," she told him after he refused to excuse her son from attending the court proceedings on that day.

Ivler is facing a murder charge for shooting and killing Renato "Nonoy" Eluarte Jr., the son of a former Malacañang official, on Nov. 10, 2009, in Samokan, Quezon City.

Last week, he was transferred from the Quezon City Jail to the Metro Manila District Jail in Camp Bagong Diwa, Taguig City, after he was classified as a high-risk inmate.

Thief nabbed for abducting, training 'apprentice'

By Jeannette I. Andrade

A 28-YEAR-OLD former detainee of the Manila City Jail may soon end up behind bars again following his arrest by the police for the kidnapping of a University of Santo Tomas student whom he taught how to steal.

The victim, a 12-year-old boy, told the police that in the 11 days he spent with Robert Cachero, he learned how to pick pockets and other ways to rob people.

Batasang City jail

Cachero, a member of the Batasang City Jail, had just been released from prison after he was convicted on theft charges.

On Monday night, operatives of the Manila Police District (MPD) Station 3 arrested him in his house on Bambang Street in Sta. Cruz, Manila, where they also found the boy.

MPD station 3 commander Supt. James Aballa said that his men were able to track down Cachero based on the information they received from seven shoeshine who spurred the former detainee with the victim.

Runaway boy

According to the police official, the boy ran away from his home in Sampaloc on April 16. He went to Quiapo where Cachero found him the next day and befriended him.

"The suspect took the boy to his house, offering him food and shelter. The other hired the boy," Aballa said.

During the time he spent with Cachero, the boy said he was subjected to a life of crime.

'Ways of surviving'

"I asked him [Cachero] why he took the boy [in], he claimed [that he was teaching the boy the ways of surviving [in] the streets," Aballa said.

He added that this meant cadging people, particularly parking parkers, snatching bags and other forms of robbery.

Aballa said that the boy had denied that the latter's presence had threatened or bore him if he refused to steal.

A police operation was set for Cachero's arrest and the boy's rescue after the latter's parents filed a complaint on Monday morning with the MPD Station 3.

It ensued that time, the police also received information about Cachero's whereabouts.

Scared of authorities

When asked why he did not turn over the runaway boy to the barangay authorities, Cachero claimed that he was afraid to approach the authorities and ask them for help.

He remains detained at the MPD Station 3 building still pending the filing of a kidnapping charge against him with the city prosecutor's office.

Police widen search for GMA 7 radio man's killer

By Kristian Felizar Manguiat

KAPOSIL, Cagayan de Oro—Police officers in Northern Mindanao have widened the probe to expand to a wider area their search for the man accused of killing a GMA 7 employee and wounding two more people on Saturday night in Cabanatuan City.

Police Senior Supt. Ferdinand Rojas, police director for Northern Mindanao, said Wednesday that police investigators have already identified the suspect in the killing of Rogelio Butch Mendoza, 37, a GMA 7 radio broadcaster, and the wounding of Mendoza's wife, Jennifer, and Jennifer's friend, Jessie Ramos.

Rojas, in a phone interview, said police investigators have already identified the suspect in the killing of Mendoza and the wounding of Jennifer and Ramos.

Rojas

Solar bottle bulbs light up homes of Tondo community

By Jaymee T. Gamil

RATHER than complain about the heat this summer, how about harnessing the power of the sun to bring electricity to a poor community?

Earlier this month, the Manila city government lit up 320 homes in Bances Compound in Tondo by installing "solar bottle bulbs" on the roofs.

The cheap, solar-powered bulbs are actually just clear plastic soda bottles filled with a mixture of purified water and chlorine or bleach, which is commonly used in household cleaning products.

Each bottle is then inserted halfway into a hole made on the roof of a home. Sealant is applied to prevent leaks and the end result gives the impression of a small, plastic chimney.

The bulb gives off light equivalent to a 55-watt electric lamp at the entire inside the bottle refracts sunlight and other external light.

One such bulb now lights up the makeshift house of Melinda Jose, 44, an informal settler at Block 5 Extension, Bagong Lipunan, Bances.

Her house, which shelters her and three other family members, including a baby, has pieces of plywood and narrow nipa for walls.

It has just enough space for a little more than two wooden beds placed closely together. It has no windows and the only way the family can get both light and ventilation is by leaving the only door—a piece of plywood—open. At night, when they close the door, they light up a candle or, whenever they can pay for it, turn on the solar-electric bulb inside their house.

Jose sees the solar light bulb as a bright idea that can help her family cut on costs.

"We have to save. My husband is a construction carpenter and we just get by. We have to pay the P800 monthly rent, in addition to food and water expenses, my grandchild's milk and other needs," she says, mentioning to a baby sleeping in a cradle.

Her only problem with the solar bottle bulb is that it's too bright. "I get dizzy just looking at it," she says with a laugh.

Her mother, Hinda Ibrahim, 64, uses the solar bottle bulb as a way to prevent fires.

Bances is known to be a fire-prone area, what with the dense cluster of houses made mostly of light materials.

Jose and her family, for one, are still waiting for a government housing unit after their old home burned down in 2001.

Jose continues to hope for a future as bright as the solar bulb she built. "There is no certainty here. Our homes might get demolished or razed any time. But we are thankful for whatever help we receive. I hope to own a home one day," she says.

The solar bottle bulb is an innovation developed by students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The idea is actively being promoted by Mr. Illac Diaz, founder of the Liter of Light project, which aims to bring 1 million homes in the country under its "Isang Litrong Liwanag-The Solar Bottle Bulb Project" which was launched in San Pedro, Laguna province early this year.

The chlorine and bleach "poison" the water to keep molds from developing so the solution can last up to five years. The use of distilled or purified water is encouraged to keep the water clear for refraction.

It only costs P100 to P500 to make a solar bottle bulb.

JUST ONE RULE A solitary solar bottle installed on the roof is all it takes to change lifestyles in depressed areas. (GRACE BALUYOT)

The Manila City government and Meralco shouldered the expenses for making the bulbs while MyShelter Foundation trained residents on how to make them.

Mayor Alfredo Lim said he was hopeful that the other houses in Bances, as well as those in other depressed communities in Tondo like Dagat-dagatan, Parola, Isla Puting Bato and Happyland, will soon be equipped with solar bulbs.

Glynn Montero, 20, a native of Cebu province who now lives in Bances with her husband, is thankful for the new light source.

"Now we can have a well-lit room for our child," says the eight-month pregnant housewife.

In their second floor room above a small store, they open the lone window in their house or use a flashlight whenever it gets dark. Now, they rely on the solar bulb.

The light is brings parallels Montero's entire dispositions through rough times. She cracks a joke about how she thought the grass would be greener in Metro Manila but discovered otherwise when she came here.

"We'll move to a better place someday," she says, her bright smile lighting up their room.

BRIGHT FUTURE Marsha's Pasilio with chubbid Tondo resident

STRADCOM congratulates the Land Transportation Office on its 99th Anniversary

STRADCOM and LTO: Partners towards Real Change

Government's 1st succesful nationwide computerization program

Stradcom reaffirms its commitment to the LTO and the motoring public in delivering IT solutions for real change.

STRADCOM... katulong ng LTO sa Daang Matuwid...

STRADCOM
IT Solutions for Real Change

LET THERE BE LIGHT From left, MyShelter Foundation Inc. executive director Illac Diaz, Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim and Meralco senior vice president Alfredo Panlilio join hands in light up homes in Bances Compound through the "Isang Litrong Liwanag, The Solar Bottle Bulb Project."

Japanese tenant dies after fall from Makati City condo

By Tina G. Santos

A 58-YEAR-OLD Japanese national fell to his death from the 18th floor of a Makati City condominium before dawn Tuesday.

PO3 Wilo Andaal of the Makati Police identified the fatality as Motohiko Hanada, supposedly an employee of Yazaki Motors Philippines in Sta. Rosa, Laguna province.

Andaal said Hanada sustained severe head and body injuries as a result of the fall at around 1 a.m. from his unit at Palmedes Condominium in Legaspi Village.

He body landed on the concrete pavement on Dela Rosa Street, the investigator said.

Police said they were not yet ruling out foul play and were conducting an investigation to determine if the fall was an accident or a case of suicide.

Prior to the incident, the victim and his live-in partner, Anna Sarvallero, were reportedly fighting.

"The victim arrived home around midnight apparently drunk. Sarvallero confronted him and asked where he had been. It heated argument then ensued," Andaal said.

At the height of the argument, the victim locked outside the veranda and threatened to kill himself by jumping off the building when he saw Sarvallero packing her things to leave him.

Before he fell, the victim reportedly managed to hold on to the veranda railing, but Sarvallero and condominium security officers whom she asked for help failed to save him.

"They said the victim was so heavy," Andaal said.

Police said they were still waiting for the results of the autopsy conducted on Hanada.

Newsman's daughter Dr. Mia Mercene, 31

DR. MIA GRACE C. Mercene, of the Asian Hospital and Medical Center, died of head complications on April 26. She was 31.

Mia is the eldest daughter of Business Mirror senior staff writer Rocio L. Mercene. She is survived by her father, brother Paolo C. Mercene II and sister Danica. Her remains lie at the Dr. Aganovas di Liguori Chapel, Magallanes Village in Makati City.

Interment will be at the Loyola Memorial Park, Parañaque City, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, following an 8 a.m. Mass at Magallanes Chapel.

Printed and distributed by Newspaperdirect

SMART lau

fastest 4G

Many experience connection speeds over 5

Over the past 18 years, SMART Communications has continually pioneered in investing in innovative network technologies to accelerate progress for millions of Filipinos across the land. SMART innovations have taken the consumers' experience and quality of life to the level of the extraordinary. People from the most remote villages to the largest cities now enjoy the benefits of global connectivity anytime, anywhere.

In its latest drive to improve customer experience through innovation, SMART recently rolled out the first commercial Long Term Evolution (LTE) technology network in the Philippines dubbed SMART Evolution.

"SMART Evolution's LTE network, designed to deliver upload and download speeds of over 10 Mbps, gives individual users performance that surpasses today's latest broadband. Moreover, this technology will be able to deliver even faster speeds of up to 100 Mbps in the near future," said PLDT and SMART CEO Napoleon L. Nazareno during the launch of the SmartEvolution Network in Boracay last week.

Because SMART Evolution is up to 25 times faster than 3G and four times faster than HSPA and Wimax, you can download movies and video conferences in minutes, songs in seconds, and watch high-definition videos on YouTube without buffering.

SMART Evolution subscribers can further enjoy mobile social networking platforms, access GPS-enabled maps, browse the web faster so they can keep up with news, sports, and stock market quotes. File sharing will be relatively easier, too.

"The possibilities are endless and will change the way people use mobile broadband. Right now, other users suffer from erratic or slow connection speeds either due to too many users trying to get online in the same place at the same time or due to poor network coverage. These issues will be resolved as Long Term Evolution is rolled out across SMART's broadband network.

"It represents a revolution in technology that has the consumers in mind and how to help them live their lives extraordinarily well," said SMART Chief Wireless Advisor Orlando B. Vea.

Tourists on holiday in the sun flock to the SMART Evolution demonstration tent.

unches the broadband

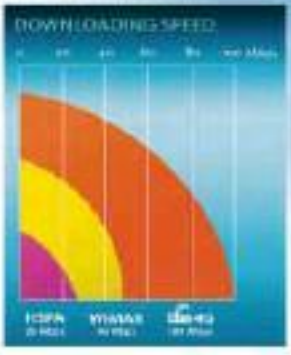
50 Mbps on the country's first LTE network

Model-host Jayson Fernandez showcases a movie in minutes and a huge music file in seconds on SMART's Xpress 4G broadband.

Hands-on LTE experience in Boracay

Hundreds of vacationers and locals enjoying their sweet Holy Week retreat in the world-famous resort island were given an exceptional feel of the SMART Evolution technology at demonstration booths set up for the occasion. They tweeted and updated their status, while some who wanted to try out the SMART LTE on their own digital devices were provided with netbooks. To form an independent judgment, bloggers conducted their own speed tests, and they were overwhelmingly impressed with the results.

From Boracay, SMART Evolution will soon reach other vacation spots in the country that have high demand for fast data transmission.



"SMART Evolution's LTE network, designed to deliver upload and download speeds of over 50 Mbps, gives individual users performance that surpasses today's wired broadband. Moreover, this technology will be able to deliver even faster speeds of up to 100 Mbps in the near future."

ERNESTO L. CORPUS
PLDT and SMART CEO

SMART's Orlando B. Vea, CG ambassador Lenlen and personal shopper Jayson Fernandez witnessed the 50Mbps speed on Smart Evolution.

LTE, perfect for growing digital lifestyles

The increasing dependence on the net, the emergence of more devices, and the need for faster connections will find the perfect solution in the ability of SMART Evolution to enhance the mind-demanding applications. Over the past six years, the use of LTE, described as an incredible new technology, has gained momentum and has made its debut in various countries.

The LTE network is acknowledged as the most efficient and intelligent communications experience that a wireless connection can offer. Greater efficiency translates to better economics for the provider and for end users resulting in more affordable mass market wireless broadband services for the Philippine market.

"SMART is the first telecommunications company in the Philippines to launch an LTE network through SMART Evolution," Vea said further. LTE will open incredible opportunities and capabilities for innovation and will enable customers to make the most out of the gadgets they need to speed up their digital lifestyles.»

Lenlen playing LTE e-quiz

"SMART is the first telecommunications company in the Philippines to launch an LTE network through SMART Evolution."

ORLANDO B. VEA
SMART CORP. WIRELESS SERVICES

SMART

World marks Chernobyl nuclear disaster 25 years ago

KIEV—Hundreds of Ukrainian Orthodox priests sang solemn hymns, Ukrainian Il Divo was unveiled and a bell rolled 25 times for the numbers of years that have passed since the Chernobyl disaster as the world marked the anniversary yesterday of the worst nuclear accident in history.

Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill led the nighttime services near a monument to firefighters and rescue workers who died soon after the accident from acute radiation poisoning.

"The world had not known a catastrophe in peaceful times that could be compared to what happened in Chernobyl," said Kirill, who was accompanied by Ukraine's Prime Minister Mykola Azarov and other officials.

"It's hard to say how this catastrophe would have ended if it hadn't been for the people, including those whose names we have just remembered in prayer," he said in an emotional tribute to the workers sent to the Chernobyl plant immediately after one of its reactors exploded in order to contain the contamination.

Tuesday's service began at 7:23 a.m., the time of the blast on April 26, 1986, that spewed a cloud of radioactive fallout over much of Europe and forced hundreds of thousands from their homes in the most heavily hit areas in Ukraine, Belarus and western Russia.

The explosion released about 400 times more radiation than the US atomic bomb dropped over Hiroshima. Hundreds of thousands were sickened and once-pristine forests and farmland still remain contaminated. The UN's World Health Organization said at a conference in Kiev last week that among the 600,000 people most heavily exposed in the radiation, 4,000 more cancer deaths than average are expected to be eventually found.

Several hundred Ukrainians, mostly widows of plant workers and firemen sent in to deal with the disaster, came to Tuesday's service to pay their respects to their loved ones and colleagues. Svetlana, 65, lit candles, stood in a line and crossed herself prior to the start of Orthodox chants.

"They have rotted around 360 degrees," said Lidiya Demchenko, 64. She and her husband both worked at the plant, and he died nine years ago from cancer linked to Chernobyl radiation.

"It was a wonderful town, a wonderful job, wonderful people. It was our youth. Then it all collapsed," she said. "If only you knew how much our hearts ache for our children, how many sick grandchildren there are, how many couples without kids."

"We came here to look each other in the face. It wasn't a farce but the people has fled here. Kiev would no longer exist," Demchenko said.

Russia, Ukraine and Belarus have cut the benefits packages for sickened cleanup workers in recent years, and many workers complained directly to Russian President Dmitry Medvedev as he laid flowers there amidst by their work at a ceremony on Monday in Moscow.

Officials in Bryansk, the Russian region most contaminated by the disaster, have failed to make necessary repairs at the local hospital, Governor Nikolai Denkin told the president.

"It's the only place of rest for us," he said. "Officials promised to renovate it, but these promises are still promises." AP

WORLDBRIEFS

Leaked documents hare al-Qaida plots

WASHINGTON—Classified military files released by the WikiLeaks website reveal a range of potential al-Qaida plots against the United States, including post-9/11 aircraft attacks on the West Coast. The New York Times reported on Wednesday that the documents, which were seen in advance, described in US military assessments of terrorism suspects being held at the military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. One of the dossiers described by the Times concerns Sahoiber Farachu, a New York travel agent for years who allegedly worked with Mohammed on plots to follow up on the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. One plan suggested by Farachu involved smuggling plastic explosives in containers of shipping bound for the US, the Times reported. Other schemes involved "filling an apartment with leaked natural gas and detonating it, blowing up gas stations and more cutting the cables holding up the Brooklyn Bridge," the Times said. AP

4 more charged in 2008 Mumbai terror attack

CHICAGO—US prosecutors charged five Pakistani men on Monday in connection with the 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, that killed 166 people, including six Americans, although none of the defendants now still custody. A second superseding indictment filed in US District Court in Chicago adds Sajid Mir, Abu Qahafa, Mazhar Iqbal and a fourth defendant known only by the alias "Major Iqbal" to a case that already included an American businessman and two others with alleged ties to the Pakistan-based terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba (Army of the Pure). The US said Headley was the 10 gunmen in the three-day siege in Mumbai's main financial and tourist district by Lashkar. AP

Ex-Egypt interior minister goes on trial

CAIRO—Egyptian ex-interior minister Habib al-Adly went on trial in Cairo on Sunday, accused of having ordered the shooting of demonstrators during protests that toppled then former regime. state media said. Adly has been charged along with six former aides, state news agency Mena said. He is accused of having ordered security forces to throw dozens of protesters to their deaths in Tahrir Square, the epicenter of the protests. Adly disappeared from the streets of Cairo in the early days of the protests. According to an official toll, 846 people were killed and several thousand wounded during 18 days of massive nationwide street protests that forced President Hosni Mubarak to quit on Feb. 11. AP

Nearly 500 Taliban bolt out of prison via tunnel

KANDAHAR—During the long Afghan winter, Taliban insurgents were apparently busy tunneling.

The militants say they spent more than five months building a 360-metre long tunnel to the main prison in southern Afghanistan, bypassing government checkpoints, search towers and concertina barriers topped with razor wire.

The diggers finally poked through Sunday and spent four and a half hours forcying away more than 400 inmates without a shot being fired, according to the Taliban and Afghan officials. Most of the prisoners were Taliban militants.

Associates of the extremely rare prison break, carried out in the dead of night, suggest collusion with prison guards, officials said both.

Following a recent wave of assassination here, the breakout underscores the weakness of the Afghan government in the south despite an influx of international troops. Fumbling and inept efforts to train Afghan police and counter-rebellions of the Taliban despite months of battle-field setbacks.

Officials at Sarpoza prison in Kandahar city the one-time Taliban capital, say they discovered the tunnel at about 10 a.m. on Monday, a half-hour after the Taliban say they had gotten all the prisoners safely to a house at the other end of the tunnel.

Government officials corroborated parts of the Taliban account. Officials said the tunnel was dug from a house within shooting distance of the prison and that the inmates had somehow gotten out of their locked cells and disappeared into the night. Kandahar remains relatively warm even during winter and the ground would not have frozen while inmates were digging the tunnel.

Police showed reporters the roughly hewn hole that was punched through the cement floor of the prison cell. The opening was about two feet in diameter, and the tunnel dropped straight down for about 1.5 meters and then turned in the direction of the house where it originated.

But access was denied to the tunnel itself, and it was unclear how the Taliban were able to move so many men out of the prison so quickly. But one hour was why guards would not have heard the diggers punch through the cement floor, and whether they supervise the inside of the prison to help the effort. A man who claimed he helped organize those inside the prison told The Associated Press in a phone call that he and his accomplices obtained copies of the keys to the cells ahead of time from friends. He did not say who those friends were.

"There were four or five of us who knew that our friends were digging a tunnel from the outside," said Mohammad Abdullah, who said he had been in Sarpoza prison for two years after being captured in nearby Zhari district with a stockpile of weapons. "Some of our friends helped us by providing copies of the keys. When the time came at night, we managed to open the doors for ourselves and those in other cells."

He said the diggers broke through Sunday morning and that the entrance in the cell covered the hole with a prayer rug until the middle of the night, when they started quietly opening the doors of cells and ordering prisoners in small groups to go to the tunnel.

He said they woke the inmates up four or five at a time to make them exit quietly. They also didn't want too many people crowding through the narrow exit themselves or one time because of worries that they would run out of oxygen, Abdullah said. AP

18

THE STAR AUCTION 2011!

SOLD!!

TUESDAY - MAY 17, 2011

All properties to be sold on "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" basis

* NOW WITH IMPROVED AUCTION TERMS *
* WILLING TO SETTLE OUTSTANDING PROPERTY EXPENSES OWING ON THE PROPERTY UP TO THE AUCTION DATE *

10% Downpayment! Two years In-house financing

GMA | MAX'S JUPITER BRANCH, MAKATI CITY
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00 AM | AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 10:00 AM

NORTH LUZON | KILLARNEY NG TISA AT THE CABANAS
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00 AM | AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 10:00 AM

CONTACT NOS.:
Manila Office:
JUNNIE - 631-7220 / 577-8444 / 0917-8020151
JENNY - 631-7220 / 577-8823 / 0917-8052257
JENNY - 631-7220 / 577-8823 / 0917-8052257
ROMMEL - 631-7220 / 577-8444 / 0917-8020151
MARIA - 631-7220 / 577-8444 / 0917-8020151
Cavite Office:
CECILLE - 046-431-8881 / 0917-8052257
AMY - 046-431-8881 / 0917-8052257
BRIAN - 046-431-8881 / 0917-8052257

Show money in the form of MANAGER'S CHECK OR CASH in the amount of Php 10,000 (where selling price is below Php 500,000; MANAGER'S CHECK ONLY in the amount of Php 50,000 (where selling price is between Php 500,000 to Php 999,999 and Php 100,000 (where selling price is Php 1,000,000 and above) per property you are in STAR ASSET MANAGEMENT CORP. (SAMC). All properties are offered on "As-is, Where-is" basis. Most of properties are either under Tatlee's name or under various stages of consolidation in the Tatlee's name. Interested parties are therefore advised to check the title, the physical and legal conditions of the property. Property details, prices, and terms are subject to change without prior notice. The Seller reserves the right to pull out any property available. Changes in prices are subject to the sole discretion of the Seller. Lot area and floor area are approximate only.

MANILA OFFICE: Unit 1102, 11/F, Accralaw Tower, 30th St. cor. 2nd Ave., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City +63 (2) 631-7220
DAVAO OFFICE: Units 5T, 5/F Landco Corporate Center, J. P. Laurel Ave., Bajada, Davao City +63 (82) 225-3643

Search on for missing in Japan

SENDAI/MIYAKO-JIMA—A line of somber soldiers walked methodically through a shattered swamp on Monday, with each step sinking deep under slender poles into the muck beneath.

If one hit a body, he would know.

"Bodies feel very distinctive," said Hirohiko Ono, a spokesman for the Japanese Army's 22nd infantry regiment.

The men were among 25,000 troops given the weight of searching the silt, the seas and the swamps of northeastern Japan for the bodies of the nearly 13,000 people still missing in last month's earthquake and tsunami.

The two-day operation was the biggest military search since the Iraqi's 13 disaster. With winnes nearing, officials hoped the troops, backed by police, coast guard and US forces, would make significant progress. By Monday evening, they had found 38 bodies, the military said.

The search is far more difficult than that for earthquake victims, who would usually be under rubble. The tsunami could have left the victims anywhere.

"We just don't know where the bodies are," Ono said. AP

OPEN AUCTION OF PRIME PROPERTIES

MAY 20, 2011 | HOTEL INTERCON, MAKATI CITY
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 10:00 AM | AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 11:00 AM

NOW WITH IMPROVED AUCTION GUIDELINES.
SELLER TO SETTLE PROPERTY RELATED EXPENSES OWING AS AT AUCTION DATE.

STARPROPERTIES invites all interested parties to bid the following properties on *"AS-IS-WHERE-IS"* basis.

METRO MANILA

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

SMN-014 — MBP : 19,338,000
COMMERCIAL CONDO — MANILA
Location: The Enzum Place Condo., Bldg. 204 Resurgimiento St., Sampaloc, Manila
Area: 46 sqm (1 unit), Alienable / Withdrawable Area: 46 sqm
Remarks: Brandy Plus Academy of Salsa. Rated 80 in 2Q3 from the cor. of Resurgimiento & Resurgimiento Sts.

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

SR-473 — MBP : P13,200,000
INDUSTRIAL LOTS (B) — PARAÑAQUE
Location: Sta. Ana St. formerly St. & No. 8-B, Private St., Phil. Economic Zone Village I, Parañaque City
Lot Area: 2,581 sqm
Remarks: About 130 m SW from the cor. of St. Concepcion Ave. & Diamond Road. Some 840 m to NE from Potencia town proper

MIXED-USE PROPERTIES

SCR-010 — MBP : P8,710,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (B) UNIT/S — QUEZON CITY
Location: No. 3 Sebastian St., Kaluluna Village, Quezon City
Lot Area: 600 sqm
Floor Area: 300 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Cainta-Taytay Highway, about 200 m NE from Cainta Municipal Hall. Some 300 m SW from Cainta-Taytay Interchange and about 250 m NE of Sta. Ignacia Church, E. Lopez Sts.

SCR-00121 — MBP : P18,800,000
MIXED-USE LOTS (B) — QUEZON CITY
Location: No. 41 Ariana Cmty., Kamuning-Mariblo Subd., Quezon City
Lot Area: 7,000 sqm
Remarks: NE corner of Ariana Dr. and Kamias Rd. Some 200 m SW from Quirino Highway & 1.2 KM SW from SM City Fairview

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

SR-474 — MBP : P8,568,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — QUEZON CITY
Location: Lot 6-A-2-01 Tandang Sora Ave., Brgy. Culiat, Quezon City
Lot Area: 144 sqm
Remarks: About 130 m from Christ the King Church and about 750 m from the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints

SR-488 — MBP : P7,125,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — MANILA
Location: No. 2173 Pilar St., Malate, Manila
Lot Area: 1,075 sqm
Remarks: About 40 m from the cor. of Pilar & Estrada Sts. Some 300 m east from the cor. of Remedios St. & Abad Santos Ave. & about 650 m from Abad Santos LRT Station

SCR-00138 — MBP : P7,824,000
RESIDENTIAL CONDO — QUEZON CITY
Location: Cluster C, Bldg. Unit C-1, Alocasia Homes, Barangay Del Monte, Brgy. Manresa, Quezon City
Floor Area: 70.04 sqm
Remarks: Accessible homes is about 350 m NW from E. Rodriguez Ave. cor. Kennedy St., and about 1.4 km NW from Aurora Blvd.

SBM-0464 to 0184 — MBP : P7,840,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (BK) — ANTIPOLO
Location: Hilltop Mist Subdivision, Brgy. San Juan, Antipolo
Lot Area: 0.324 sqm
Remarks: About 600 m north from the corner of Mountain Road and Marigold St. and about 1.7 km NW of San Luis Elementary School. Actual lot may be different from what is shown in the plan. Lots are for sale.

SR-442 — MBP : P8,540,000
RESIDENTIAL CONDO UNIT — MAKATI CITY
Location: Unit 5-3F, 1 Cruz Kristy-P, Bugay cor. Valencia St., Makati City
Floor Area: 103 sqm
Remarks: Near Prime Terrai, North Park Cmty., Makati High School, Aero Valley, Mckinnon Plaza, Jupiter Area and The Fiona Field Mall

SUN-015 — MBP : P9,568,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (B) UNIT/S — PARAÑAQUE CITY
Location: Lot 4624-B-1, BSD Dr. E. Santos Ave., San Antonio Parañaque City
Lot Area: 300 sqm
Floor Area: 240 sqm
Remarks: Near Hall Foods. Inside subdivision along the western side of an Alley Road within Lot 4624-B-1, BSD

SBN-020 — MBP : P18,480,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (B) UNIT/S — QUEZON CITY
Location: Lot 10 Sct Macrohon Industrial Subd., Brgy. Socorro, Novaliches, Quezon City
Lot Area: 1,400 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 from the cor. of Don Jose Gregorio and Commonwealth Ave. About 450 m NE from San Bruno High School

SR-511 — MBP : P11,723,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (C) (B) UNIT/S — VALENZUELA CITY
Location: 4018 St. Hermenegildo St., Malinta, Valenzuela City
Lot Area: 4,100 sqm
Floor Area: 1,100 sqm
Remarks: Adjacent to San Roque Church, about 1 km SW from Malinta Exit Toll Gate and 3.5 km NW from Valenzuela City Hall

SU-050 — MBP : P12,184,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (L) & UNIT/S — MALABON CITY
Location: #149 Panghulo Road, Brgy. Panghulo, Malabon City
Lot Area: 1,140 sqm
Floor Area: 139 sqm
Remarks: Near Susana Santos Homes, Panghulo Market, Panghulo Elementary School, Santo Cristo College and Kingsborough

SR-497 — MBP : P18,200,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (D) (B) UNIT/S — QUEZON CITY
Location: #8 Sampaguita Street, Corazon, Quezon City
Lot Area: 300 sqm
Floor Area: 90 sqm
Remarks: 50 m from the SE cor. of Sct. Tuazon and Sgt. Esperon St. 50 m SE of Corner Dumaliw Bldg. and 200 m NE of Pagasa Blvd. Schools along EDSA

SBN-0278 — MBP : P4,408,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (B) — BALIWAG CITY
Location: Lot 1, Blk 1, Sct. Pilar St., Brgy. Sto. Rosario, Bagumbayan, Baliwag City, Bulacan
Remarks: About 480 m east from Poblacion Bridge. About 1.250 km from the intersection of R-1 (Del Pilar St.) and Dr. Pascual Ave. on the outskirts of Poblacion Baliwag

LUZON

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

SP-022 — MBP : P7,600,000
COMMERCIAL LOT — QUEZON PROVINCE
Location: Brgy. Brgy. Isabel within Barangay Poblacion, Dolores, Quezon Province
Lot Area: 0.121 sqm
Remarks: Located near Lucena Hospital, St. John Hospital 2, Iraya Senior Legal Village and Mortuar Village

SBN-0246 — MBP : P10,450,000
COMMERCIAL LOTS (A) (B) UNIT/S — LIPA, BATANGAS
Location: Along Provincial road, Talisay, Lipa City, Batangas
Lot Area: 700 sqm
Floor Area: 1,100 sqm
Remarks: Currently the site of St. Rosario's Furniture. About 100 m south from Lipa City rest. and approximately 2 KM NE from SM Lipa City

SBN-0247 — MBP : 14,450,000
COMMERCIAL LOTS (B) UNIT/S — LIPA, BATANGAS
Location: Sitio Del Monte, Kalayaan Sct., Poblacion, Lipa City, Batangas
Lot Area: 583 sqm
Floor Area: 350 sqm
Remarks: Currently the site of Diet Herbal. About 0.4 KM from McDonalds and 1.5 km NW from Cathedral De San Sebastian

INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES

SP-019 — MBP : P17,600,000
INDUSTRIAL LOT — CAMARINES, CAVITE
Location: Along Governors Drive, Barangay Salawag, Dasmariñas, Cavite
Lot Area: 5,755 sqm
Remarks: Along SE side of Governors Drive within Brgy. Salawag. Near Shell Gas Station, Southern Industrial Plaza, Unilab Mission Office

SRM-021 — MBP : P23,183,000
INDUSTRIAL LOT — MARIVELES
Location: Lot 69, Phase Two, Brgy. Sitio Wawa, Mariveles, Bataan
Lot Area: 0.164 sqm
Remarks: Near Bonanza Auto Port, Park, Talaga Sol Phase, HLAA. About 60 meters from Manila-Bataan Highway. Frontage of 913.20 m along Private Road

SP-010 — MBP : P38,068,000
INDUSTRIAL LOT — LAGUNA
Location: Sitio Sinungan Road, Brgy. Laguna, Milkpink, Laguna
Lot Area: 23,444 sqm
Remarks: Located along SE side Milkpink Binangonan Road. Near Golden Country Homes, Silver Grandeur Estates, Mallandeo Golf Park, Mount View Hill Park, Mount View Golf Course

MIXED-USE PROPERTIES

SP-023 — MBP : P5,900,000
MIXED-USE LOTS (D) — QUEZON PROVINCE
Location: Within Mabanang Subdivision, Candelaria, Quezon
Lot Area: 118.8 sqm
Remarks: Mabanang Subdivision. About 50 m NW of Candelaria Public Market and 200 m along Rizal - Alejandro and 600 m from Poblacion

SUN-021 — MBP : P7,700,000
MIXED-USE LOTS (B) UNIT/S — QUEZON CITY
Location: Along National Road, Brgy. Pamplona, Bacoor, La Union
Lot Area: 2,275 sqm
Floor Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: About 2 KM to NE from Pamplona Elem. School, some 200 m SW from Indio Nuevo and about 2 km north from Bacoor Municipal Hall

SBN-016 — MBP : P8,800,000
MIXED-USE LOT — BALIWAG CITY
Location: Sct. 2, Agricultural Highway cor. Kapitol Gasac St., Brgy. Concepcion 2, Baliwag, Bulacan
Lot Area: 0.0972 sqm
Remarks: Corner of Sct. 2, Agricultural Highway and Kapitol Gasac St. and about 100 m from NE of the Rotary Gardens Cmty. Road

SR-348 — MBP : P28,562,000
MIXED-USE LOT — PALAWAN, LAGUNA
Location: Lot 3-B, Aziz I Avenue, Barangay Tadlac, Laguna
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Lot along south side of National Rd. and presently the New Lucena Supermarket and Mart. Some San Agustin Church, La Suerte Philippines and 4SU Pizza and Gasoline Station

SR-341 & 343 — MBP : P28,280,000
MIXED-USE LOT — PALAWAN, LAGUNA
Location: Lot 3-1 & 3-2, Aziz Highway, Parian, Calamba, Laguna
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Lot along south side of National Rd. and presently the New Lucena Supermarket and Mart. Some San Agustin Church, La Suerte Philippines and 4SU Pizza and Gasoline Station

SR-512 — MBP : P28,318,000
MIXED-USE LOT — MARILAO, BULACAN
Location: Lot 1, Sct. 1, Brgy. Abangan Norte, Marilao, Bulacan
Lot Area: 0.1 sqm
Remarks: Near Golden Cow Biscuit, Philippine Airport Research, Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement, Puregold Foods and Wawa Pool. Wide frontage along Lico River. 130 m south from the entrance of Golden Cow Resort

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

SP-045 — MBP : P9,538,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (BK) — BULACAN
Location: Diamond Hills Subd., Camalig, Caingin, Bulacan
Lot Area: 60 sqm
Remarks: Adjacent to the Bulacan Memorial Cemetery. Inside subdivision. Surrounding area consists of San Jose Elementary and 7th to 8th Kilometer of Mac Arthur Highway

SP-304 — MBP : P13,200,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — TANAY, RIZ. PROV.
Location: Lot 7297-B Laguna Drive, Sungay, Tagaytay City
Lot Area: 0.2004 sqm
Remarks: Located on the NW side of Laguna Drive across of Ridgeside Park Paradise and is to about 350 m SW from Sitio Tipo

SR-089 — MBP : P31,600,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT — MALABON
Location: Sitio Diaria Country Club, Brgy. Tinajeros, Malabon
Lot Area: 600.00 sqm
Remarks: Near Tinajeros Elementary School, Tinajeros Barangay Hall, Tinajeros Market, Tinajeros Police Station, Malabon Bell Church, Malabon Public Market, Malabon Central School, Malabon Elementary School, Malabon Central Fire Station, Malabon Central Post Office, Malabon Central Terminal, Malabon Central Police Station, Malabon Central Bus Terminal, Malabon Central Market, Malabon Central Hospital, Malabon Central Library, Malabon Central Park, Malabon Central Plaza, Malabon Central Square, Malabon Central Avenue, Malabon Central Street, Malabon Central Road, Malabon Central Boulevard, Malabon Central Drive, Malabon Central Lane, Malabon Central Court, Malabon Central Place, Malabon Central Terrace, Malabon Central Gardens, Malabon Central Heights, Malabon Central Hills, Malabon Central Valley, Malabon Central Plains, Malabon Central Meadows, Malabon Central Woods, Malabon Central Forest, Malabon Central Jungle, Malabon Central Desert, Malabon Central Ocean, Malabon Central Sea, Malabon Central Lake, Malabon Central River, Malabon Central Stream, Malabon Central Waterfall, Malabon Central Mountain, Malabon Central Valley, Malabon Central Plains, Malabon Central Meadows, Malabon Central Woods, Malabon Central Forest, Malabon Central Jungle, Malabon Central Desert, Malabon Central Ocean, Malabon Central Sea, Malabon Central Lake, Malabon Central River, Malabon Central Stream, Malabon Central Waterfall, Malabon Central Mountain

SCR-00160 — MBP : P22,000,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (BK) — QUEZON CITY
Location: Southview project, Brgy. Mt. A, Commonwealth, Loma City, Novaliches, Quezon City
Lot Area: 90 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Commonwealth Ave. cor. Regalado Ave. Some 1 km NW from Novaliches Elementary and Kaisa Heights Road

SP-106 — MBP : P37,800,000
RESIDENTIAL LOT (B) — LAGUNA
Location: Villa Verde Subdivision, Brgy. Sto. Domingo, Biñan, Laguna
Lot Area: 150 sqm
Remarks: Near Dalian Bldg. Inside subdivision. Some 1 km from Sto. Domingo Church. Perfect area for small scale business. Accessible to San Jose Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Church, Sto. Domingo Public Market, Sto. Domingo Barangay Hall, Sto. Domingo Police Station, Sto. Domingo Fire Station, Sto. Domingo Post Office, Sto. Domingo Library, Sto. Domingo Park, Sto. Domingo Plaza, Sto. Domingo Square, Sto. Domingo Avenue, Sto. Domingo Street, Sto. Domingo Road, Sto. Domingo Boulevard, Sto. Domingo Drive, Sto. Domingo Lane, Sto. Domingo Court, Sto. Domingo Place, Sto. Domingo Terrace, Sto. Domingo Gardens, Sto. Domingo Heights, Sto. Domingo Hills, Sto. Domingo Valley, Sto. Domingo Plains, Sto. Domingo Meadows, Sto. Domingo Woods, Sto. Domingo Forest, Sto. Domingo Jungle, Sto. Domingo Desert, Sto. Domingo Ocean, Sto. Domingo Sea, Sto. Domingo Lake, Sto. Domingo River, Sto. Domingo Stream, Sto. Domingo Waterfall, Sto. Domingo Mountain

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTIES

SP-067 — MBP : P5,930,000
AGRICULTURAL LOTS (B) — BATANGAS
Location: Brgy. Bagong Sikat, Calaca, Batangas
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Remarks: Near Dalian Bldg. Inside subdivision. Some 1 km from Sto. Domingo Church. Perfect area for small scale business. Accessible to San Jose Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Church, Sto. Domingo Public Market, Sto. Domingo Barangay Hall, Sto. Domingo Police Station, Sto. Domingo Fire Station, Sto. Domingo Post Office, Sto. Domingo Library, Sto. Domingo Park, Sto. Domingo Plaza, Sto. Domingo Square, Sto. Domingo Avenue, Sto. Domingo Street, Sto. Domingo Road, Sto. Domingo Boulevard, Sto. Domingo Drive, Sto. Domingo Lane, Sto. Domingo Court, Sto. Domingo Place, Sto. Domingo Terrace, Sto. Domingo Gardens, Sto. Domingo Heights, Sto. Domingo Hills, Sto. Domingo Valley, Sto. Domingo Plains, Sto. Domingo Meadows, Sto. Domingo Woods, Sto. Domingo Forest, Sto. Domingo Jungle, Sto. Domingo Desert, Sto. Domingo Ocean, Sto. Domingo Sea, Sto. Domingo Lake, Sto. Domingo River, Sto. Domingo Stream, Sto. Domingo Waterfall, Sto. Domingo Mountain

SR-015 — MBP : P8,670,000
AGRICULTURAL LOTS (B) — BATANGAS
Location: Lot 6, Nat'l. Highway, Brgy. Dagatan, Taysan, Batangas
Lot Area: 0.4 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in NW of Nat'l. Highway Cmty. Road. Some 1 km from Taysan Municipal Hall. Accessible to San Jose Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Church, Sto. Domingo Public Market, Sto. Domingo Barangay Hall, Sto. Domingo Police Station, Sto. Domingo Fire Station, Sto. Domingo Post Office, Sto. Domingo Library, Sto. Domingo Park, Sto. Domingo Plaza, Sto. Domingo Square, Sto. Domingo Avenue, Sto. Domingo Street, Sto. Domingo Road, Sto. Domingo Boulevard, Sto. Domingo Drive, Sto. Domingo Lane, Sto. Domingo Court, Sto. Domingo Place, Sto. Domingo Terrace, Sto. Domingo Gardens, Sto. Domingo Heights, Sto. Domingo Hills, Sto. Domingo Valley, Sto. Domingo Plains, Sto. Domingo Meadows, Sto. Domingo Woods, Sto. Domingo Forest, Sto. Domingo Jungle, Sto. Domingo Desert, Sto. Domingo Ocean, Sto. Domingo Sea, Sto. Domingo Lake, Sto. Domingo River, Sto. Domingo Stream, Sto. Domingo Waterfall, Sto. Domingo Mountain

SR-517 — MBP : P12,104,000
AGRICULTURAL LOTS (C) — TANAUAN CITY
Location: Brgy. Sambat, Tanauan City, Batangas
Lot Area: 0.4 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in NW of Nat'l. Highway Cmty. Road. Some 1 km from Tanauan Municipal Hall. Accessible to San Jose Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Elementary School, Sto. Domingo Church, Sto. Domingo Public Market, Sto. Domingo Barangay Hall, Sto. Domingo Police Station, Sto. Domingo Fire Station, Sto. Domingo Post Office, Sto. Domingo Library, Sto. Domingo Park, Sto. Domingo Plaza, Sto. Domingo Square, Sto. Domingo Avenue, Sto. Domingo Street, Sto. Domingo Road, Sto. Domingo Boulevard, Sto. Domingo Drive, Sto. Domingo Lane, Sto. Domingo Court, Sto. Domingo Place, Sto. Domingo Terrace, Sto. Domingo Gardens, Sto. Domingo Heights, Sto. Domingo Hills, Sto. Domingo Valley, Sto. Domingo Plains, Sto. Domingo Meadows, Sto. Domingo Woods, Sto. Domingo Forest, Sto. Domingo Jungle, Sto. Domingo Desert, Sto. Domingo Ocean, Sto. Domingo Sea, Sto. Domingo Lake, Sto. Domingo River, Sto. Domingo Stream, Sto. Domingo Waterfall, Sto. Domingo Mountain

MINDANAO

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

SU-155 — MBP : P28,080,000
COMMERCIAL LOT (B) UNIT/S — DAVAO CITY
Location: Blk 6 Diversion Rd., Davao City
Lot Area: 0.474 sqm
Floor Area: 0.444 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Diversion Rd. cor. Pres. Roxas Interchange, Carmelite Center, Crokaya Center, Buhangin and Buhangin Access Complex

SU-264 — MBP : P28,800,000
COMMERCIAL LOT (B) UNIT/S — DAVAO CITY
Location: Lot 6-A-1, Diversion Rd., Davao City
Lot Area: 1,000 sqm
Floor Area: 0.086 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Diversion Rd. cor. Pres. Roxas Interchange, Carmelite Center, Crokaya Center, Buhangin and Buhangin Access Complex

SU-509 — MBP : P14,400,000
COMMERCIAL LOT — DAVAO DEL NORTE
Location: Nat'l. Highway, Brgy. Bolton, Calaguan De Oro City
Lot Area: 0.4 sqm
Remarks: Current use of Ordinary Restaurant near Mindo. Junkies Bar, Jollibee, Chowking and Mcdonalds. Some 1 km from Cagayan de Oro City Hall. Some 2 km from Cagayan de Oro Airport. Frontage of 84.90 m along Nat'l. Hwy.

MIXED-USE PROPERTY

SU-406 — MBP : P7,942,000
MIXED-USE LOT (B) UNIT/S — DAVAO CITY
Location: Lot 1, Blk 1, Nat'l. Hwy., Brgy. Bolton, Calaguan De Oro City
Lot Area: 34,253 sqm
Floor Area: 600 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Pajumas Plaza. Some 500 m from Brgy. Hall. Some 2 km from Cagayan de Oro City Hall. Some 2 km from Cagayan de Oro Airport. Frontage of 84.90 m along Nat'l. Hwy.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

SU-216 — MBP : P90,200,000
RESIDENTIAL LOTS (B) — DAVAO CITY
Location: Blk 6, Matina Pangi, Davao City
Lot Area: 617.41 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Matina Pangi Rd. cor. Chinese Garden Rd. Some 1 km from Ateneo de Davao University. Some 2 km from Davao City Hall. Some 2 km from Davao Airport. Frontage of 84.90 m along Nat'l. Hwy.

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

SU-181 — MBP : P16,350,000
AGRICULTURAL LOT — DAVAO CITY
Location: Lot 1, Blk 1, Nat'l. Hwy., Brgy. Bolton, Calaguan De Oro City
Lot Area: 14,504 sqm
Remarks: Rated 80 in Nat'l. Hwy. cor. Hibaluan Rd. Some 1 km from Hibaluan Rd. Some 2 km from Davao City Hall. Some 2 km from Davao Airport. Frontage of 84.90 m along Nat'l. Hwy.

IMPORTANT BID GUIDELINES (SEE FULL DETAILS)

- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.
- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.
- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.

PROPERTIES WITH UNCANCELLED BIDS (SEE FULL DETAILS)

- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.
- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.
- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.

PROPERTIES WITH UNCANCELLED BIDS (SEE FULL DETAILS)

- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.
- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.
- Bidder Money - Only cash or cashier's check may be accepted as the auction participant in the bidding money, or auction date May 20, 2011.

CONTACT INFO:

Metro Manila Office:
JENNY - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 891-7 4844 / 817-8800
JOVEY - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 0917-8532257
MARVIN - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 0917-8532257
ELLIE - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 0917-8532257
RAZEL - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 0917-8532257
ANGELA - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 0917-8532257
ROSALIA - 891-7226 / 817-8800 / 0917-8532257

Davao Office:
PRECILLE - (082) 221-8881 / 0917-4782201
JAYT - (082) 221-8881 / 0917-4782201
MYAR - (082) 221-8881 / 0917-4782201

www.starproperty.com

DISCLAIMER: "Many of properties are under under Seller's name or under various stage of consolidation in the Seller's name. Buyer is encouraged to conduct due diligence of the title, the physical and legal condition of the property. Floor plans are also not representative only. Property details included in this flyer are subject to change without notice. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. For best interest, the right on cash are you property anytime. Change in prices are effective from the date declared of the Seller."

From Ninoy to Noynoy:
25 Years of the Philippine Daily Inquirer

"From Ninoy to Noynoy: 25 years of the Philippine Daily Inquirer" chart for the last 25 years of Philippine history through the pages, photos, editorials and scoops contained in the last quarter century's newspaper of record.

From the magic to the scam, and the many shades in between, the **Inquirer**'s 25th anniversary offering highlights the resilience and heroism of Filipinos through the searing days of the Plaza de Roma rallies, the heady days of Edsa People Power I, the watchful years and restless ire of the early 1990s to the passion of the People Power II to the ire of the country's reaction to its grieving, as the son of the woman whose outbursts and speeches fix the country becomes the country's 15th president.

Alongside the history of the "democratic project," the book is also the story of the **INQUIRER**'s growth in diverse areas, from a paper financed by a powerful engagement ring to a group all over a dozen publications with a presence in print, broadcast, and beyond mobile.

Books are available at the
Inquirer Corporate Affairs office, Inquirer Bldg., Ortigas corner Mascardo St.,
1656, Cities Rizal Avenue, Makati City.
Free delivery for a minimum order of 10 books
To order, please call Blanca Kasilag at 897-8888 loc. 352 or 896-4436
E-mail: blancakasilag@inquirer.com.ph

The WORLD

Also Lawrence S. Ganzon

Syria arrests 500 protesters

AMMAN—Security forces have arrested some 500 prodemocracy sympathizers across Syria after the government sent in tanks to try to crush protests in the city of Deraa, the Syrian rights organization Sawasiah said on Tuesday.

The independent organization said it had received reports that at least 20 people had been killed in Syrian since tanks moved in on Monday, but communications with the southern town where the protests against President Bashar al-Assad began on March 15 had been too troubling it hard to confirm the information.

"Witnesses managed to tell us that at least 20 civilians have been killed in Deraa, but we do not have their names and we cannot verify" said a Sawasiah official, adding that two civilians were confirmed dead in the Damascus suburb of Douma, which it too entered earlier in the day.

At least 500 were arrested elsewhere in Syria, it said.

Amnesty International, citing sources in Deraa, said at least 22 people were killed when tanks shelled the town in what it called "a brutal reaction to people's demands."

"By resorting to the use of artillery against its own people today, the Syrian government has shown its determination to crush the peaceful protests in virtually any case, whatever the price in Syrians' lives," said Philip Luther, Amnesty International's Middle East and North Africa director.

Government forces also stormed the Damascus suburbs of Douma and Mouadamiyah on Monday, shooting and making arrests, a day after they swept into the coastal town of Jableh, where at least 13 civilians were killed, rights campaigners said.

Dhiya said: The figure for civilians killed could be as high as 50 in Deraa and 11 in Mouadamiyah, rebels fire on the road to the occupied Golan Heights southwest of Damascus.

"The regime has chosen to use excessive violence. It murdered in 1982, but there is no guarantee it will work again in the age of the Internet and global connection," said a senior diplomat referring to the 1982 crushing of a revolt in the city of Hama which killed up to 30,000 people.

Footage posted on the Internet by demonstrators in recent days appears to show troops firing on unarmed crowds. In the Damascus suburb of Douma, residents described security forces firing at unarmed protesters from a heavy machine gun mounted on a truck.

The White House, deploring "brutal violence used by the government of Syria against its people," said President Barack Obama's administration was considering targeted sanctions to make clear that "the behavior is unacceptable."

Syria has been under US sanctions since 2004 for its support of militant groups. Several Syrian officials, among them Assad's cousin Rami Makhlouf, a tycoon, are under specific US sanctions for "public corruption."

Looking forward, rights campaigner Suhair al-Atassi said Assad has launched a course was designed to scandalize Syria's democratic by attacking Deraa, Jableh and Douma on suburbs.

"President Assad's intentions have been clear since he became president: saying he is 'prepared for war,'" Atassi said, referring to a March 30 speech to parliament. Reuters

THE STAR AUCTION 2011!

THURSDAY - MAY 19, 2011

All properties to be sold on "AS-IS, WHERE-IS" basis

"NOW WITH IMPROVED AUCTION TERMS"
"SELLER TO SETTLE OUTSTANDING PROPERTY EXPENSES OWING ON THE PROPERTY UP TO THE AUCTION DATE"

visit us @ www.starproperty.com

10% Downpayment! Two years In-house financing

SOUTH LUZON | TO BE ANNOUCED
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00 AM | AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 10:00 AM

MINDANAO | ROYAL MAMDAYA HOTEL, DAVAO CITY
REGISTRATION STARTS AT 9:00 AM | AUCTION PROPER STARTS AT 10:00 AM

CONTACT NOS:

Manila Office:
JAMIE - 891-7220 / 577-4864 / 0917-6028-927
JOVEN - 891-7220 / 577-4864 / 0917-6902-837
JOHNY - 891-7220 / 577-4864 / 0917-6902-270
DULCE - 891-7217 / 577-4865 / 0917-6902-272
HAZEL - 891-7220 / 577-4864 / 0917-6902-512
ROMALD - 891-7220 / 577-4864 / 0917-6902-837

Davao Office:
CECILLE - 082-221-6861 / 0917-6902-851
JAYY - 082-221-6861 / 0917-6902-850
JENNIE - 082-221-6861 / 0917-6902-849

Store stocks in the form of MANAGER'S CHECK OR CASH in the amount of Php 10,000 (unless selling price is below Php 500,000, MANAGER'S CHECK ONLY in the amount of Php 50,000 (unless selling price is between Php 500,000 to Php 999,999; and Php 100,000 (unless selling price is Php 1,000,000 and above) per property payable to STAR ASSET MANAGEMENT CORP.(SAMC). All properties are offered on "As-is, Where-is" basis. Titles of properties and either under Seller's name or under various stages of consolidation of the Seller's name. Interested parties are therefore advised to check the title, the physical and legal condition of the property. Property details, prices, and terms are subject to change without prior notice. The Seller reserves the right to withdraw any property anytime. Changes in prices are subject to the sole discretion of the Seller. Lot area and floor area are approximate only.

MANILA OFFICE: Unit 2102, 21/F, Meridian Tower, 5th St. cor. 2nd Ave., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City 403-2100/1-3300
DAVAO OFFICE: Units 9-7, 9/F Landco Corporate Center, J.P. Laurel Ave., Bajada, Davao City 403-2100/1-3300

Gadhafi still defiant despite Nato bombings

MISRATA—Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi remained defiant on Tuesday after his compound was hit by Nato bombs and rebels in Misrata said they had pushed back forces of the long-serving leader.

"The leader is marching from Tripoli. The leader is well, is very healthy, is leading the battle for power and democracy in Libya," regime spokesperson Mussa Ibrahim said outside the bombed building of Gadhafi's Bab al-Aziziya residence.

"The leader is in the safest place. He is leading a battle... he works every day. He led the battle to provide people with services, with food, with fuel, fuel," Ibrahim told a news conference in the presence of several ambassadors.

A roaring boom from Gadhafi's office was loudly damaged in urban Tripoli in Britain's early rare "precision strike" on a compound since events early on Monday.

Three people were killed and 45 wounded—13 seriously—in the air strike, Ibrahim said.

At least five explosions rocked western Tripoli on Monday night, witnesses said, although there could not pinpoint the location.

"We heard three loud explosions and we saw flames and smoke billowing close to us," a resident of the Zuara neighborhood in western Tripoli told AFP.

Two other detonations shook the area neighborhood a few minutes later, another said.

Rebels in Misrata, 215 km east of Tripoli, said their have pushed Gadhafi's troops out of the city after a siege lasting more than seven weeks.

The claims came even as rockets continued to rain down on the country's third city.

"There are no more soldiers loitering in the city, afraid of being killed, but there are no groups of soldiers left," one rebel said.

At the Hamman Hospital, Mohammed al-Fajeh recounted the deaths of the Monday's fighting, describing essentially severe wounds and corpses riddled with bullets from either.

There were "completely charred corpses, some of them so badly burned that we cannot say they are human bodies," he told AFP. "This is the first time we've seen such wounds."

According to figures provided by sources at hospitals across Misrata, around a dozen people were killed and at least 20 wounded in fighting through the night on Monday.

Sources said there might up to the violence were all civilians—including young children. AFP

Editor Raul D. Pangalangan • Assistant Editor Cornie S. Mariano

BUSINESS

Strong stimulus to keep PH afloat

But food price hikes continue to threaten country's stability

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
April 26, 2011
43.280

STOCK MARKET
April 26, 2011
25.80

Market succumbs to profit-taking

By Doulce L. Lucas and Riza T. Olchondra

THE PHILIPPINE economy will likely remain "resilient" for the rest of the year due to a strong agricultural sector and the multiplier effects of government spending, despite the threats posed by higher crude oil prices and the fallout of the natural calamities in Japan.

According to the local unit of Dutch banking giant ING, the Philippines includes much to the inflows of the Japanese crisis, which may lead to a decline in dollar remittances from Filipinos working in the world's third largest economy.

"The impact of the disaster in Japan, through the disruption of the supply chain and a more modest reinvestment trend, could be mitigating," said Joey Cuyegkeng, chief economist of ING Bank in Manila.

Still, a 30-percent increase in the prices of international commodities this year may curb economic growth in the Philippines, noted Development Bank (ADB) said.

In a study "Global Food Price Inflation and Developing Asia," ADB said a 10-percent rise in international food and fuel crude oil prices in 2011 could slow down the economy by 1.2 percentage points in 2011.

Even a 5-percent decline in food, and 3.1 percent drop in fuel crude oil prices will result in a slowdown of 0.9 percentage points in 2012.

"This is because the country is a large net importer of both food and fuel crude oil," the report said.

Among ADB member-countries studied, Singapore, also a food and oil importer, is expected to suffer (small), with its economy slowing down by about 1.5 percentage points in 2011, and 0.8 percentage points in 2012.

Global food prices grew 34.2 percent year-on-year in February 2011. At the same time, the price of Brent crude oil has gone up by 39.8 percent.

Movements in international prices have started to affect domestic prices in developing Asian economies. The increase in global food prices by close to 30 percent in January translated to an average of about 10 percent food inflation in a number of regional economies, the report said.

ADB said increases in global/Brent crude oil prices are relevant in analyzing food price shocks because movements in input costs such as fertilizer prices, irrigation with diesel pumps, and general transport costs closely follow those for energy prices.

Larger hikes in global commodity prices are expected to badly hit the poor domestic producers of most developing countries in Asia.

In conclusion, the ADB said economic new high prices would rise because inflation would erode the purchasing power of households, undermining the poverty reduction and human development gains of the government over the last decade.

"Simulation results suggest that a 10 percent rise in domestic food prices in developing Asia [home to 3.3 billion people] could push an additional 64.4 million into poverty, or lead to a 1.9 percentage point increase in poverty incidence based on the $1.25-a-day poverty line," ADB said.

Also, ING's Cuyegkeng said that although the country's overall growth could slow down given the current circumstances, especially after what had happened to Japan, the resurgence in Philippine agriculture and the government's decision to release funds right away could revitalize the economy and offset

(TRUNCATED)

IN THIS ISSUE

■ **Biz Buzz: Volcanic** Windfall /B4

■ **Gov't spending in Q1** lower than programmed /B2

■ **BTr raises P9B** from bond sale /B6

Gov't spending in Q1 lower than programmed

By Michelle V. Reyes

THE GOVERNMENT spent less than programmed in the first quarter of the year, according to the Department of Budget and Management.

Under the fiscal program for the first three months, the government was allowed to spend as much as P491 billion for projects and programs of line agencies and salaries of civil workers.

Budget Secretary Florencio Abad said the government spent much less than P421 billion in the first quarter, as government agencies were told to conduct a review of the costs of their projects to see whether there was room for reduction. The review required time, as implementation of certain projects was moved to the next quarter, he said.

"Like DPWH (Department of Public Works and Highways) for instance. The agency had to spend practically the whole of the first three months to review their project costs," Abad told reporters at the sidelines of the 75th anniversary celebration of the Department of Budget and Management on Monday.

Given this, the budget chief said, spending was slow in the first quarter but it was expected to accelerate in April to June, when the unspent projects would be implemented.

Abad said the lower than-programmed spending in the first three months was expected to have contributed to the billion-ceiling deficit of the government for the period. He said a lower deficit was not only a reading of budget shortcomings but also of higher-than-expected revenue collections.

The government set the deficit ceiling for the first quarter at P112 billion, two-thirds and the annual figure would be less than the P168 billion posted in the same period last year.

Official deficit data for the first quarter would be released by the Department of Finance this week.

"The reinstatement of some of ongoing projects is part of the zero-based budgeting (ZBB) system implemented by the Aquino administration. Under this, an ongoing project is reexamined. It's allocated a budget. Instead, the costs of some of ongoing projects will have to be reassessed first before they are given funding.

This is in contrast with the old system wherein ongoing projects are automatically allotted funding, the amount were based on when was originally allotted.

Although the ZBB system may allow government to generate savings and help reduce corruption, critics said the system might result in delays in project implementation.

However, Abad said the savings to be generated would enable the government to fund more projects than scheduled.

The advantage of removing the costs of projects is that you get the same projects done in less cost. Come quarterly you can do more projects," he said.

Abad said the government intended to significantly increase spending in the second quarter to make sure projects and programs lined up for the year were implemented.

"We may expect spending to accelerate in the coming months," he said. Abad added that as a result, the budget deficit for the second quarter could be bigger than the gap in the first quarter.

Should bonds be part of my portfolio?

MONEY MATTERS

Eileen U. Cruz, RFP

Question: [DBC] who doesn't have a small saving Philippine peso asset bonds at 7 percent or 8 percent. Are there small bonds?

Are they Government of Philippines bonds? How does one buy them? — Theresa

Answer:

BINGLE are answer the question. Let's talk about investing in general and then bonds in particular.

Some people say investing is speculation. To a certain extent this is true. The older we get, the less time we have to recover from a loss. Thus, we tend to be more conservative with how we invest our hard-earned money and wonder the older we get. So how does one know that rules of thumb like the "100 minus your age rule" can be followed to the letter? The "100 minus your age rule" says that the difference between 100 and your age represents the percentage of your portfolio that should be invested in stocks.

Rules of thumb give you wisdom in life and in investing. Let's say you have a million pesos in your retirement account (RBA) or rolling over your employer's retirement account (ERA) or IRA. Now where do you get your "thirty bonus off." If we were to take the "100 minus your age rule" literally, what advice can we give to the current retiree since in the world who just turned 1,147 And even if we are just talking about an 80 year old, should that person be 20 percent invested in stocks? Having an investment advisor is not for everyone. Those who are aggressive and living in the Philippines would indeed be fine and be known.

There is a role in investing, which is more like a lens. Risk goes up the higher the potential return and the longer the time an instrument is expected to be held. Risk is also higher at the three major categories of investment instruments. There could be ranked from the lowest to the highest risk levels as follows: money market, bonds and stocks.

But what is a bond in the first place? A bond represents the debt of its issuer. The investor can be a person, a company or a government. Usually, the issuer of the bond pays interest periodically each year and repays the original amount invested in the bond on the bond's maturity date. I didn't exactly catch the GS-BC word hitting but I am sure they were referring to bonds available in the Philippines.

There are also many coupon bonds where the issuer does not pay interest during the life of the bond. Instead, on the bond's maturity date, the issuer pays an amount that is higher than the original amount placed by investors.

Bonds can have a fixed maturity or be perpetual. Fixed maturity bonds are those which date have an authority. But one things is sure and that is bonds are long-term investments.

In the Philippines, bonds are currently issued in pesos, US dollars and euro's. Both (Republic of the Philippines) refers to the US dollar-denominated debt of the Philippine government. They are traded locally and internationally. A recent addition is the Global Peso bond of the government that is also traded locally and overseas locally.

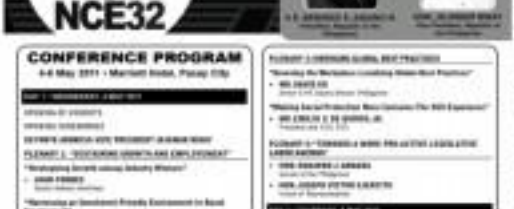
One thing great about investing in bonds as the Philippines is that they can be tax-exempt provided their original maturity is not less than five years, that the bonds are issued by banks, that the investor of the bond is an individual and that the investor holds on to the bonds for at least five years. Individual investors can enjoy tax-exemption with bonds issued by non-banks provided they invest in these bonds through the unit investment trust funds (UITF) of banks or bring them (UIC). Most others can investors get a hold of IMAs and UITFs through the trust departments of banks that hold Bureau of Internal Revenue rulings that these IMAs and UITFs when invested in bonds of non-banks are tax-exempt. Please note that there are minimum investment requirements for IMAs and UITFs.

But what about buying bonds directly? Bonds in the Philippines are bought and sold through PDEX (formerly Philippine Dealing Exchange (PDEx) accredited brokers. For a complete listing of these brokers, visit www.pdex.com.ph and click on "Rules," "Trading Participants" and "Public Market." You can also find the latest bond prices in this site. Bonds that are not traded on PDEx can be bought from and sold by banks.

Now should bonds be part of your investment portfolio? Yes, but only after you have an emergency fund and after you have paid off your debts. Plus there is more to bonds than meets the eye. This column is not intended as a recommendation to buy or sell securities. So do ask a financial advisor for help.

HAPPY INVESTING.

Eileen U. Cruz is a registered financial planner with the *RFP Philippines*. She is *author of the bestselling books, "Pesos Mo! The Complete Peso Guide to Personal Finance"* and *"Pesos Mo! The Complete Peso Guide to Retirement & Estate Planning. For information about the RFP programs, visit www.rfp.ph or e-mail info@rfp.ph*



PSE tightens screening process for index listing

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange has tightened the process of screening companies to be included in its roster of blue chips under the 30-company main share index, PSEi, and other sub-indices.

The PSE announced on Tuesday the revision of its policy on managing the PSEi index effective September, citing the need to "enhance the quality of the PSE indices, reflect corporate actions in a timely manner and elevate index standards to international best practices."

Apart from the PSEi, the index covers a total of six sector indices and the all-shares index.

"The revisions should help ensure investors, fund managers, and other market participants to make their shares more attractive to us, earlier," PSE president and chief executive officer Hans Sicat said in a statement.

Under the amended policy, companies should meet three critical criteria to qualify in the PSEi. The company's free float level should be at least 12 percent, up from the current 10 percent; it must rank among the top 25 percent in terms of median daily value in nine out of the 12 months in review, from 95 million, and the ranking of qualified companies should be based on full-market capitalization instead of float-adjusted capitalization.

The ranking will no longer consider the sector representation of companies and float-adjusted companies will be treated equally in general. The rules limit of companies it done in less stages. First, the two highest-ranked companies from each of the sectors based on the 12 data to ensure sector representation. Second, the remaining slots are occupied by the 10 highest-ranked companies from among the other qualifiers.

To be eligible for the sector indices, companies under of the company must belong to the top 50 percent in terms of median daily trading value as well as eight out of the 12 months in review.

The index re-composition review will also be moved to March and September each from May and November.

The other changes are the creation of a "review" list to be used by the committee that will review delisted from the PSE, review rules for investors and removals, and additional provisions to better reflect the effectiveness of the PSEi as a market indicator.

Meanwhile, the PSE's latest index review covered the way for the return of Security Bank to the PSEi, replacing Top Frontier Corp.

The exchange operator added to the watchlist indices any Integrated Silica-Electronics Inc., Republic Cement Corp. and Iron/Steel Brewery Inc. for the industrial index; Anglo Philippine Holdings Corp. and South China Resources Inc. for the holding firms index; Polar Property Fund Inc. for the property index; and Atlas Consolidated Mining Corp., Benguet Corp. Class A Shares, World Corp. for the services index; and Apex Mining Co., Inc., Alsons Consolidated Resources Inc. and Lepanto Consolidated Mining Corp. for the mining & oil index.

Leapfrog to invest $25M in PH

By Abigail L. Ho

LEAPFROG INVESTMENTS, the world's first micro-insurance fund, has committed $25 million (P1.1 billion in Bank Philippines to provide different kinds of insurance to the country's "middle poor."

In a briefing session this Leapfrog partner Stephanie Chakravarty said the company sees in talks with "the most significant life and non-life insurers" in the country for a possible partnership.

Chief executive officer, he said products targeting the "middle poor" versus or individuals who cover classified poor but could afford to pay for some insurance coverage, would be rolled out.

"I would be very disappointed if we don't see a deal closing in 2011," he said. "We'll probably get there, but the deal might take longer than we are currently in the same market."

He said the first product that LeapFrog and its potential partner would launch would likely be life insurance. Non-life and health insurance could follow in the future.

For premiums for life insurance, the product would range from P2.65 a month.

LeapFrog aimed to insure about 2.5 mil-

LEAPFROG B3

Leapfrog to invest in PH

From page B2

firm low-income, "unbanked" people in the country. It operates in the 25 million households that the company was targeting globally. The products that the company and its partners could offer included life, health, property, personal life, accidental death and disability, and voyeurer index.

Partners could be insurers or distribution channels such as microfinance institutions, retail chains, mobile phone operators, church groups, or non-governmental organizations.

The insurer's other primary markets are South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, India, and Indonesia.

MYOB Accounting & Payroll Software
FOR ONLY ₱12,500

FREE DEMO!
"Proven Real-Time SME Accounting System + Inventory (SQL / Client Architecture)"

LOAN PROBLEMS?
We can help you!!!
DIGMAPPO CONSULTING CORPORATION

CUSTOMIZED STORAGE RACKS TO MAXIMIZE YOUR SPACE!
JUSTIC CORPORATION
Tel. Nos.: 242-2040 • 241-5237 • 310-8838

ROVER SYSTEMS
CCTV
723-7959 www.roversystems.com.ph

ROBINSONSBANK
5.88% w/REPRICING PROTECT*
1 YEAR FIXED RATE**
Your Wise Move!
Rates applicable to P2Million and above. Home Loan applications must be approved and released on or before APRIL 30, 2011.
EXTENDED UNTIL JUNE 30, 2011
* not to exceed additional 2% on year two
** low rate options for 3 year & 5 year fixed terms are also available
A SM Investments Company
For details, please call:
(02) 702-9500 locs. 356 & 353 (Housing Loan Dept.)
For MM Branches: 376-4510 & 772-1565
Customer Care Center: 637-CARE (2273)
c3@robinsonsbank.com.ph

NOTICE OF THE 2011 ANNUAL REGULAR MEMBERS' MEETING

Alliance buys US fish firm

PH company now region's biggest player in salmon sector

By Doris C. Dumlao

ALLIANCE SELECT Foods International Inc. has entered into a deal to acquire 100 percent of Massachusetts-based salmon smoking and curing firm Spencer & Co. Ltd., transforming the local firm into a regional salmon processing giant.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange on Tuesday, Alliance said it had signed a deed to acquire the US fish company through subsidiary, ASF Choice Foods Inc. for $8.5 million.

"This makes Alliance the region's largest player in the global smoked salmon market," said Alliance president and chief executive officer Jonathan Ang in a text message from Boston.

This now leaves Big Glory Bay still also supply food service products for El Barbecue. (There are synergies everywhere," Ang added.

Spencer & Co. will be Alliance's third smoked salmon venture. It entered into a helping the Filipino firm make inroads into the lucrative EU market instead.

Spencer, which was founded in Brockton, MA in 1990, specializes in the production of smoked salmon and seafood in the Scottish tradition of its founder John Spencer. It caters to the high-end consumers market in the United States.

"An investment in Spencer is another step toward Alliance's goal of diversifying its product line to enhance shareholder value and ensure future profitability," Alliance spokesperson Rajni Bulan-Kalwani said in the exchange.

Based on its website, Spencer purchases not only smoked salmon but also smoked steelhead trout, smoked mackerel, smoked bluefish, whitefish, Boston haddock and other cold smoked offerings.

To partly finance the acquisition, which is expected to be concluded by early August, Alliance has obtained board approval to sell new shares to existing shareholders.

The PSE suspended trading on Alliance starting 8 a.m. on Tuesday pending the submission of additional disclosure of pertinent details on the transaction.

Formerly known as Alliance Tuna International, Alliance started commercial operations in 2006 to engage in tuna processing, canning, and export of canned tuna products in General Santos City in Mindanao.

The company, founded by Filipino-Chinese businessman Jonathan Tee, exports to Europe, North America, Asia, Africa and South America as a "private label manufacturer" of canned tuna and processor and tuna sizzling in convenient brands.

Volcanic windfall

WHO'S AFRAID of Taal Volcano? Despite(ly) former Mayor Jr. a.k.a. "Big Boy" Sonia back.

If so till, he is even thankful that the volcano has been acting up recently as it may have even have catapulted the by family's former estate protection Tagaytay more prominently into investors' radar screens.

Over Bel Leiden hotels, the group's flagship property was SMDC, Highlands Prime and Tagaytay Highlands developer Belle Corp.) found the greatest number of visitors and positive mind-boggling sales.

"I was a little bit worried, but strangely, Highlands Prime sales went up this week to April, and SMDC sales for Wind (their condominium project) skyrocketed also last (July Week)," he said. "So if you ask me what's the reason, I don't know, that's why I said thank you to the volcano."

Based on feedback from locked people, the unexpected boom in sales may have reached the mainland. "That's why our buyers proved us wrong by buying so much units in all our projects in Tagaytay," he said.

Doris C. Dumlao

Big Boy's beauties

If SMDC has figured prominently in the upcoming Miss World beauty pageant to be held at the Philippine International Convention Center (the Arena) with SMDC would be part of the grand prize package), it's because the group is providing new proposed Gran Luxe Suites Cory Quirino Oriental condo as a full partner for the pageant.

Big Boy said this will keep SMDC busy while it's planning its own movie to showcase the products of the firm (and rather Old additions/improvements).

SMDC's new image model, actress Janine Gutierrez, who graced the property's latest annual stockholders' meeting yesterday, said she might start shooting by next month another movie opposite actor Derek Ramsay.

But this new flick isn't co-produced by SMDC, for now, Big Boy says he will focus on the Miss World pageant. *Doris C. Dumlao*

Coyuio: bags Lamborghini

SMCE Roberto Coyiuto Jr. already has ownership German luxury car brands Audi and Porsche under distributorship agreements with the PGA Cars, will it not be a matter of time before he adds Harley Lamborghini to his growing stable?

There is a very real possibility that this will come to pass as Coyiuto and other members of the PGA Cars management team were recently seen scouting the VIP viewing room of the Lamborghini pavilion in the Shanghai Auto Show 2011.

Some wags say that the meeting concluded on a happy note for Coyiuto, who has been distributing high-end Germans automotive brands since 1995. And since Lamborghini is part of the Volkswagen group that includes Audi and Porsche, Coyiuto is in pole position to distribution deal.

If that happens, then Lamborghini aficionados who are yearning to drive a Gallardo or Aventador will no longer have to rely on the gray market or import the cars themselves. They may soon need to just go to a PGA showroom and drive off with a piece of precision engineering...if they can afford it, that is. *Tina Arceo-Dumlao*

Cueto traffic! Guns!

TRAFFIC time from Pasay City to Gen. E. Cueto, will be cut to a mere 20 minutes starting today with the inauguration of the 81 Extension of the Skyway-Cavite Toll Expressway (Cavitex), with no less than President Benigno S. Aquino III gracing the occasion.

The new 7.8-kilometer tollway built by SUMMARA Philippines Corp.—a wholly owned subsidiary of Coastal Road Corp.—extends the existing 6.49-km Coastal Road from Taguig to Cavitex to Tirona Highway in Cavite, Cueto.

According to the firm, the new highway can accommodate as many as 160,000 vehicles a day, helping ease the notoriously bad traffic conditions in and out of Cavite that annoy travelers there for as long as five hours on bad days.

The company also hopes that the shortened travel time will give a boost to the Cavite investment zone, adding to the boomer already in the Cavite Export Processing Zone in the towns of Rosario, Tanza and General Trias.

The price tag? A cool P5.7 billion, shared between UBE MEER and the Philippine Reclamation Authority—the first major infrastructure project completed under the Aquino administration.

The expressway can now be fully functional for the remaining days of this month, but will have to pay a P50 toll fee starting May 1, 2011.

According to people who have "been there" the new highway (the company was able to build it in such longer time) will ease the current traffic congestion in Metro Bay, especially by shaving an hour-plus minutes. And keep your windows rolled up because they have yet to invest in the technology to fix their squally (Cavitex-Manila Bay Expressway: Danny E. dixon).

Get business advice and a preview of the buzz in the morning before it comes out. Text GO BIZ BUZZBOX to 4167 (P2.50/txt).

Phoenix sales surged 122% to P6.1B in Q1

By Amy R. Borja

PHOENIX PETROLEUM Philippines Inc. posted a strong first quarter (Jan-year) with a 122-percent surge in its sales to P6.1 billion, compared to the P2.75 billion recorded during the same period last year.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange, Phoenix explained that the growth came from the aggressive expansion of the oil company's retail network, as well as the increase in sales from its retail and commercial accounts. Sales volume almost doubled year-on-year, the company said.

As of end-March 2011, Phoenix Petroleum has 178 stations spanning nationwide, from 141 retail gas stations as of end 2010. Of the 178 stations, 115 are in Mindanao, six in the Visayas and 57 in Luzon.

Based on its first quarter performance, the company said it was confident of hitting its target of putting up 80 additional stations before the end of the year.

In 2010, Phoenix Petroleum managed to grow its share in the oil industry to 2.3 percent from the previous year's level of 1.23 percent. The oil company now claims to be the leading independent oil company in Mindanao.

Phoenix Petroleum is engaged in the storage, trading and distribution of petroleum products in the Philippines through its network retail network and industrial accounts.

Metro Pacific gets new shares in infra unit

A LOCAL affiliate of the Metro Pacific group is exercising its option to acquire new shares in infrastructure holding firm Philex Pacific Investments Corp.

This is in exchange for P6.6 billion worth of convertible bonds issued in 2009 when the group was raising fresh funds to raise interest in power distribution firm Manila Electric Co.

The conversion will result in the issuance of 2.83 billion new common shares of MPIC to Metro Pacific Holdings Inc., in turn diluting existing shareholders by about 13 percent.

Based on the disclosure, both parties agreed that these conversion shares will be issued by MPIC out of its reserve for authorized capital stock.

But if the increase in authorized capital is not completed within 90 days from conversion date, MPIC has the option to require MPIC to issue the conversion shares out of its current unissued capital, the disclosure said.

Shares of MPIC fell by 4.11 percent to P3.73 each after the conversion notice was disclosed.

But some analysts said this may not necessarily be due to the pending dilution, which had long been known in the market.

"I think it's more technical in nature. There was really an overhang issue. The conversion's been with us for more than a year. I think Jun Mari Lanot, head of research at Local brokerage Citiseven Lanuza & Co.

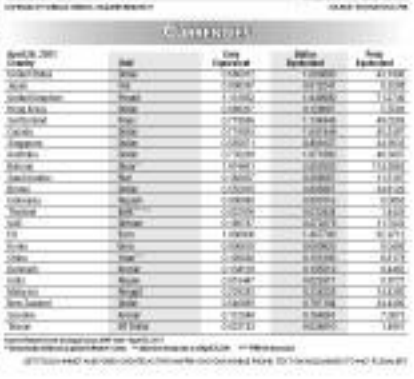
During the last briefing for analysts, Lanuza said the group of Manuel V. Pangilinan (MVP) didn't find said the conversion would indeed take place this April.

"Although Metro Pacific Holdings is in the money, I don't think they will sell off right away because there are no buyers yet," Lanuza said.

MPIC issued the convertible bonds to MPHI in March 2010 when it created jointly with what was then Philippine Telephone Corp. the holding firm Beacon Electric Asset Holdings Inc. Telephone shares on Meralco were consolidated.

It was also during this time when the Pangilinan-led group bought additional shares in Meralco from the Lopez family.

Doris C. Dumlao



Strong stimulus to keep PH afloat

From page B1

the impact of world events.

Recently, the National Statistics Office reported that exports rose at its slowest pace since November 2009 that Cayetano said this recently reflected the "normalization of economic activity after ... the 2009 recession."

Combined with the impact of the twin disasters in Japan last month, this may only leave a "mild impact on the Philippine pesо," as overall dollar inflows from overseas Filipino workers and the business process outsourcing sector will likely "remain positive and more than cover the large trade deficit."

Market succumbs

From page B1

the sector's strong showing in the last few days **where global gold prices surged to a record** $1,509.38 per ounce in New York.

Nine turnover amounted to P5.2 billion. There **were 52 advancers against 84 decliners, while 46** stocks were unchanged. (Doris C. Bumatay)

Looking for a BIR-compliant Accounting Software?

ERIC

Tested and proven by large taxpayers, ERIC is specialized for Distribution, Trading, Car Dealerships, Repair Service, Micro-Insurance, NBFA, and Manufacturing.

BIR Compliant since 2000

Reports
- 2307
- VAT Relief
- 2550M
- SAWT
- 2550Q
- 1604E
- SLSP
- MAP

Call, email or text us now for a fast ahead on BIR-CAS registration.

JUPITER SYSTEMS, INC.

Catch Bieber Fever and win tickets with Smart

FedEx delivers diverse portfolio of services to customers

With globalization sweeping market borders and integrating economies, access to goods, services, ideas, and opportunities have dramatically expanded and revolutionized the face of business. New flows and connections are constantly opening for businesses. And those who are able to adapt and innovate proactively are set to move ahead of the fast-paced competition.

Nowadays, small and medium enterprises are essentially competing in the same field as large corporations in every step of the supply chain. This is made possible by the faster and more cost-efficient ways to bring their products to market. With the help of modern logistics, transportation and communication, even the smallest enterprise can go global from day one.

To efficiently network and deliver business demands across markets, businesses need to take advantage of tools that complement the growing need for strategy and innovation.

Responding to market demands

In this current economic landscape, there is no one-size-fits all solution to international shipping. Customers' needs are dependent on multiple factors, including transportation costs, speed of delivery, mode of transportation, and value of goods being shipped, among others.

Understanding the need of businesses to grow and compete within the rapidly changing marketplace, FedEx Express continues to evolve and develop the right products and services that add value for customers.

FedEx has been focused on using its extensive global connectivity and broad portfolio of services to provide reliable, value-added services to help customers compete more effectively.

FedEx International Priority (IP) overnight service allows customers to get their time-sensitive shipments under 68 kg to the required destination in as fast as one business day. FedEx IP delivers time-definite, customs-cleared, door-to-door delivery to more than 200 countries, typically in 1, 2 or 3 business days, and next-business-day to thousands of U.S. destinations. Shipments containing antiseptic, breakable single pieces or skids above 68 kg may be shipped using FedEx International Priority Freight (IPF) service.

For less urgent packages under 68 kg, customers can take advantage of FedEx International Economy (IE) service. This is an economical, day-definite, customs-cleared, door-to-door service that can deliver intra-Asia packages in two to three days, and shipments to the U.S. and major European markets in three to four business days. The FedEx IE service costs approximately 21 percent less than the FedEx International Priority overnight service. Packages greater than 68 kg destined to major markets in Asia, U.S., Canada, and Mexico may be shipped using FedEx International Economy Freight (EF) service.

Tools for global competitiveness

In addition to day-definite shipping options, it is also vital for businesses to harness the power of technology to facilitate their business development when they go international.

FedEx recently launched new iPhone and BlackBerry applications and enhanced the FedEx mobile website in Asia Pacific. These applications allow customers to track the status of their packages and use "My FedEx Tracking" for additional shipment details, get rate quotes, schedule pick-ups, and find nearby FedEx locations. The service is especially useful for customers on the go and do not have access to back office support on their shipping needs.

In addition, FedEx provides dedicated software solutions targeted at helping small businesses compete better at the global level. The Small Business Resource Center on fedex.com provides customized navigation, logistical tools and resources to give small businesses added convenience when making international shipments.

Growth opportunities for Philippine businesses

FedEx believes that unprecedented expansion of Access - to goods, services, ideas and opportunities - is the primary driver of productivity and positive change for nations, businesses and individuals around the world.

Philippine entrepreneurs should take advantage of increased access to global opportunities, particularly provided by free trade agreements (FTA) with different markets. The new Philippine Export Development Plan (PEDP) recently reported that the Philippine export scene is gearing up to double exports in six years by setting aside US$100 billion worth of goods abroad by 2016.

As a leading facilitator of trade and globalization, FedEx is well positioned to help Philippine businesses seek out emerging opportunities and gain access to tools they need to succeed in the global scene.

For further information on FedEx services, you may call hotline number 833-866-8484.

Contact FedEx Customer Service team for exact transit time. Savings based on a 10 kg shipment with shipper's own packaging and from Philippines to China using FedEx International Priority® at FedEx list rate.

FedEx Express

Airfreight 2002 Inc

BUSINESS

BTr raises ₱9B from bond sale

By Michelle V. Rosas

AMASH BI cash, banks continued to swamp the auction for government securities, submitting P92.160 billion worth of bids for 10-year Treasury bonds.

But the government yesterday offered, and accepted, only P9 billion worth of debt paper.

The Bureau of the Treasury said it did not want to borrow more than what had been programmed.

The long-term bonds fetched a rate of 6.8 percent, up from the 6.125 percent registered in an auction for the same bonds held last Sept. 14.

According to the BTr, the latest rate for the bonds are consistent with existing secondary market rates.

"The market is becoming more comfortable with future inflation," National Treasurer Roberto Tan said reporters after the bond auction yesterday.

He said fears of accelerated inflation had somewhat eased, and so there was less reason for banks to seek higher rates.

In the first quarter, inflation averaged at 4.1 percent, well within the full-year cap of between 3 and 5 percent.

Economists and infrastructure proponents were behind raising speculation on the increasing price of oil in the world market.

But these pressures may not lead to a breach in the government's inflation cap, they added.

Finance officials also said improving revenue collection and fiscal performance of the government would encourage investors to buy more Treasury bonds.

The government posted a deficit of only P9.1 billion in the first two months of the year. This led to projections that the deficit for the entire first quarter would be only below the P12.5 billion ceiling set for the period.

1st TruBank links up all branches with PLDT SME Nation's IPVPN Service

Rural Bank of Tagum, now rebranded as 1st TruBank, with 11 branches serving the needs of Southern Mindanao's middle market and micro-entrepreneurs, PLDT IPVPN or Internet Protocol Virtual Private Network is a secured data connectivity designed to link multi-site branches computer systems and ATM machines. Lining up the ceremonial contract signing are 1st TruBank President and CEO Charles Reginald Reyes (3rd from right) is joined by PLDT SME Nation Visayas Business Head Nito Bamilan (4th from left) Also in the picture are 1st TruBank SVP Ferdinand Bubolo and AVP Ka MS Mark Nongbasco (5th and 7th from left, respectively). PLDT SME Nation is further represented by Mindanao Area Sales Head Roland Cudavas (2nd from left), Mindanao Area Sales Supervisor Ma. Mae Galicia and Mindanao Community Consultant, Theresa Jinalyn (2nd,Left,from,theme left)

READY FOR OCCUPANCY WITH OPERATIONAL COMMERCIAL AREAS
NO DOWNPAYMENT NO LUMPSUM PAYMENTS 15 YEARS @ FIXED 8% INTEREST
FULLY FINISHED 3BR ONLY P33K/MO.

VICTORIA TOWERS
TOWER D
NOW PRE-SELLING
NO. IGNACIA AVENUE, QUEZON CITY
3BR ONLY
P7,500/MO.

call us now!
448-5160•410-1952
www.nsjbi.net www.victoriatowers.com
NEW SAN JOSE BUILDERS INC.
SanJoseLand

MOTORING

Ted Jayson Undiano
Reports: ted.jayson@inquirer.net
E-mail: jr_motoring@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Jong R. Alvarez

Parts inventory enough for next few months

By Tessa R. Salazar

WHILE MOTORISTS have been busy keeping a weary eye on volatile fuel prices, another worrying issue has seemingly simulated them. The triple disaster that struck the northern part of Japan in March 11 (the earthquake, the resulting tsunami and nuclear meltdowns) already has reportedly caused a ripple effect on the Japanese manufacturing sector, specifically automotive and auto parts manufacturing.

Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. (Camp) president Elizabeth H. Lee has stated publicly that alternative parts sourcing is being sought as a temporary solution. Honda Cars Philippines Inc., Chevrolet Philippines (The Covenant Car Company Inc), Toyota Motor Philippines and Ford Group Philippines have issued separate statements to Inquirer Motoring saying the same thing: That there are enough inventories for the coming months.

There will be delays with hot moving parts, car makers admit.

Lee disclosed that automakers, through Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association Inc.'s (and locally-through Camp), are seeking measures to help mitigate the impact on parts supply, which include: CBD packs, by temporarily switching from parts suppliers who are still unable to resume operations, to those who are less affected by the disaster.

"As a result, Asian governments are requested to accept vehicles whose parts are sourced from different suppliers who are equally compliant with required standards to be accepted even prior to obtaining type approvals for the specific parts."

Lawyer Alfaro Avella, managing director and chief operating officer of The Covenant Car Company Inc. (exclusive distributors of Chevrolet vehicles in the country), told Inquirer Motoring that "though the source of Chevy vehicles are not from Japan (model offers of Chevrolet vehicles in the Philippines are manufactured and assembled at three GM and Chevrolet plants in Thailand, Korea and South America), it would not be improbable that there will be some parts and components that may be sourced from Japan."

Forecast

Avella added: "We have been assured by our principals in Japan that there are sufficient inventory of vehicles to serve our requirements ... in accordance with our three-month rolling forecast. As for the parts requirements, we strictly adhere to the forecasting method for our parts inventory and we do not expect any interruption in this respect."

Honda Cars Philippines Inc. sales and corporate communications head Yolanie Gonzales said that at present, stock levels for all Honda models for retail sales remain normal, save for the usual minor variations in transmission or color options.

"We have yet to determine with absolute accuracy how our stock position is going to be from May," said Gonzales.

Toyota Motor Corp.—the mother company in Japan—has resumed production since March 17 for its service parts in order to minimize the disturbance to Toyota owners worldwide. As for the parts for production overseas manufacturing affiliates including TMAP-TMC, was able to resume production from March 21. TMC has also restarted vehicle production March 28 for some hybrid models such as the Prius at its Tsutsumi Plant in Toyota City, and the Lexus CT200h and HS250h at its Kyushu plant in the southern island of Japan.

These developments were announced by Michihiro Sugata, TMP president, on an April 11 media briefing. "On top of those, TMC decided to resume production of all models at all Japanese vehicle production facilities from April 18, but the production volume is planned to be approximately 50 percent of ordinary operations.

"In this way, the operational situation seems to be gradually getting better. However, at this moment, we still do not see clearly when TMC, its subsidiary vehicle manufacturers, and its supplier can fully resume their operations at 100 percent," said Sugata.

Added Sugata: "Generally, our local operations in the Philippines for CBU (importation) and sales have adequate inventory from the pipeline to meet our volume this month. However, for some of the fast moving variants, our dealers are running short of their stock. In this regard, I would like to apologize to our customers who will be inconvenienced by the delays in the delivery of their vehicles.

"In the area of after sales operations, we continue to receive service parts from Japan. In terms of production from our Sta. Rosa plant, we anticipate a temporary limitation in the supply of production parts in the third week of April due to the momentary stoppage of parts production in Japan from March 14 to 26. Because of this, we decided to extend our Body Week holiday break from April 14 to April 20. In effect, the original scheduled three-day week from April 18 to 20 will be recovered sometime in the months of July to September.

"As a Japanese national, I have no doubt at all that Japan will surely get back on its feet and will be much stronger. My only regret at this moment, however, is that I cannot say when this will happen and for how long our dealers and customers would be inconvenienced by the delay in the supply of production parts. I sincerely hope that our customers will keep their trust and confidence in Toyota," said Sugata.

Ballwashing

Ford Group Philippines' AVP for communications Anika Salcedo Wyness sent an announcement on April 18, highlighting planned "down days" for the year that were pulled ahead as a precautionary move.

"We are working with our suppliers on a daily basis to minimize any disruptions and are acting proactively and decisively to stay ahead of the situation. We have also pulled ahead previously scheduled downtimes at select temporary downtime in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific.

The statement added: "We do not expect the production disruptions to Asia Pacific to have a material impact on our overall results. Our inventories are adequate to support consumer demand at this point."

At the Edge in Nurburgring

By Jang Arcano

NURBURGRING, GERMANY—In the competitive world of motorsports, there is a good driver, a well-engineered performance car and the sole ambition to win. But there is also a rarer partnership that keeps on raising the bar for the rest.

To flaunt this special relationship, Castrol and BMW brought an international group of VIPs and journalists to the full-paved grounds of Nurburgring in Germany recently for a real-life experience on driving around the toughest and most demanding racing circuit in the world records.

The most notorious of Nordschleife in Nurburgring may scare the wits out of the most daring drivers, but this chance visit had all the elements of a trip beyond imagination.

For this exclusive outing, BMW sent a full fleet of the newest and latest cars available bearing the blue and white tandem to a 21-seven years time and again round from its lazy sleep by the roars of high-speed engines being pushed to the limits.

The select group simply marvelled at the sight of a gushing jet packed with VIPs and all the latest in the BMW fleet from the 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, X and Z Series. Being allowed to drive these powerful machines around "The Ring" (called this by its world-renowned admirers) is like little girls on their first trip to Disneyland.

"To have access to the Nordschleife with such a selection of BMWs to choose from is one of the ultimate motorsport experiences around," said Ivan Rabasky, Castrol Edge global brand manager.

Rightly so.

But it was also BMW's desire for the visitors to take the approach to driving to the next level. So who not send two of its very unique drivers, Andy Priaulx and Dirk Muller, to join their visitors in a once-in-a-life-time drive around the Nordschleife circuit?

The presence of Priaulx, a Briton who won three consecutive World Touring Car Championships (the feats from 2005 to 2007 and also emerged victorious in the 2008 edition of the gruelling 24-hours at Nurburgring, and Dirk Muller, a German whose list of conquests include the 1998 Porsche Carrera Cup, the 2004 Nurburgring race and a bunch of GT races in Europe and the US, got everybody star struck. And inspired, of course.

While Dirk, who counts Michael Schumacher as his best friend, was giving everyone a hell of a "fast ride", ensured the visitors used for runs like the German Grand Prix, Priaulx made it all look so effortless at the wheel and more with his superb driving skills and excellent maneuvers while providing useful driving tips.

The whole Castrol Edge Nurburgring Experience idea was to give everybody a better understanding of Castrol's strongest oil yet as words with BMW as the most demanding users.

"For events like the Nurburgring Experience, the importance of this level of testing becomes clear. The standard engine speed for a BMW M3 on a lap of the Nurburgring is 7,150rpm, with a peak engine speed of 8,400rpm," explained Simon Gosney, senior development technologist of Castrol.

The piston speed inside the engine, he said, will be around 20m/s (approx 65mph). On average the engine will five 240,000 times per lap, amounting to 19,000,000 on a single Nurburgring 24-hour race and racing believes it is critical that drivers are able to rely on the highest level of performance being delivered on demand.

Technical aspects such as these may never be fully understood by people accustomed to such a unique motoring experience, relying on the little knowledge they have on Nurburgring obtained from placemats, iPads or Gran Turismo games.

This one was the real deal.

NOTES—Castrol country sales director Marc Soto, Castrol country marketing manager Ariel de Jesus, Asian Carmakers Corp. president Manfred Perez and after-sales director Jun Pesquia served as gracious hosts to Castrol dealer Pedro Dizon and three motoring editors...the whirlwind trip brought them to such unknowing places as the BMW Welt and Museum and Hofbrauhaus in Munich, the Porsche-base in Nurburgring and the Autobahn to Mulhhausen en route to Frankfurt.

(Next: More on Castrol and BMW's motorsports foray)

CHAMPION driver Andy Priaulx with (from left) Marc Soto, Jun Pesquia, Manfred Perez and Ariel de Jesus.

MAIDAPE President's racing! Manfred Perez gets her helmet on.

VISITORS gather at the pit lane for a demo by the BMW drivers.

CASTROL dealer Pedro Dizon gets taken around the M3.

GERMAN driver Dirk Muller with Ariel de Jesus and the star of the fleet, the BMW M3 Coupe (E92).

WITH the proper gears (except for the clutch), Priaulx is in for fun in an Jun Muller to a ride that went at 250 kph.

JP Tuason and his new gadget

JP TUASON, founder and CEO of Tuason Racing School and TRS Driver Development Academy, is always looking to be on the cutting edge in racing and in educating Filipino motorists. The same is true when it comes to his gadgets.

"TRS is always innovating. We like to be progressive and the marriage of speed and technology with motorsports keeps us in the lead both on and off the track," shares Tuason, a Samsung Galaxy Tab user. In a sport where every millisecond counts, performance is everything.

"I really like the size and fast response of the Galaxy Tab. There are many ways it fits very well in my motorsport lifestyle," shares Tuason.

Operating on android 2.2 (Froyo) the Samsung Galaxy Tab measures a mere 190.09mm x 120.45mm x 11.99mm and weighs in at just 380g making it smaller and lighter than any notebook computer giving it perfect portability even around the racetrack.

OFF the track, JP multitasks with his Samsung Galaxy Tab.

THE GADGET is, for JP, like a sports car.

"I use the camera to take videos of my students on the track (then) play back their performance for instruction," says Tuason referring to the Galaxy Tab's 3MP rear-facing camera with auto-focus and LED flash and full-HD video playback with its 7.0 inch TFT-LCD, WSVGA (1024 x 600) display.

With thousands of free apps available in the Android market, the possibilities on the Samsung Galaxy Tab are endless, almost.

"I have a multiple driver map search (Multi Timer Pro) which helps me time competitors and keep track of how we are doing as a team," he adds.

"I (also) use a drawing app (Multitasking Plus) to explain race theories," reveals the three-time karting champion and Asian Formula 3 driver.

A firm believer in the continuous pursuit of knowledge, Tuason attended top racing schools in the US where he received advanced race tuition from world champion racing drivers such as Skip Barber Racing School, Richard Petty Driving and Michael Andretti Speed Lab before establishing TRS.

"The combination of the phone, camera and tablet (features) makes it an all-in-one device which currently has no rivals," he quips.

Undeterred, the driver-to-business-to-be is also maximizing his Galaxy Tab by using its spreadsheet and email functionalities.

"I have an unlimited data plan which allows me to go online and be connected wherever I am," he says.

Ultimately, the device is Tuason is like a sports car. "(It's) very fast, looks good and draws a lot of attention."

The Ultimate Teana

If I had been handed here our list the ultimate Nissan Teana—the top-of-the-line 350HV—might have won a category single in the 2010-2011 Car of the Year (Cary) Awards. But the Teana 350HV entered the Philippine markets in December 2010, which was too late for the Cary testing program. As it happened, the Teana 250HV LVL which debuted at the 2nd Philippine International Motor Show last August, bagged the Cary Red Book Travel Sedan award. Yes, the top-spec model is costlier and sophisticated than ours, more expensive vehicles.

The word "sedan" has always been associated with the Teana, which is said to be the 1st(the) longest successor in Nissan's flagship model. Like the Cefiro, the Teana Energy is powered by the HQ 96-engine series that is known for its simplicity, compactness, low friction and responsiveness. The HQ engine has the world's first hydrospeed valve lifter coated with diamond like carbon that reduces surface friction by 40 percent and lowers carbon emission. No wonder the HQ powerplant is the only engine in make it to Ward's 10 best engines list for 2.4 automotive years.

ACE

But an award-winning V6 engine is not the ultimate Teana's only ace. Its size (the Teana 350HV is longer than the BMW 5-Series) and creature comforts would qualify it for the premium midsize sedan class, what with a twin-glass sunroof, perforated and ventilated leather seats, plush, high-pile carpeting, dual-zone aircon, power-operated windows and rear sun blinds. For the front and passengers, power rear antishock and an OE audio system with a 6-disc in-dash CD changer and six speakers.

On the other hand, its retail price—P1.998 million—would put it back into the executive car segment with the 3.5 liter Toyota Camry and the Honda Accord. To pigeonhole the ultimate Teana as belonging to one category or another is a dicey proposition.

Whatever its rightful category, the Teana 350HV is commandingly perceived as a chauffeur driven car. The rear seat, after all, is well-cushioned and evenly with generous headroom and legroom—passengers are very much their feet under the front seats. The backseat accommodations are spacious and pampering enough to please even the most discerning front. The trunk space measures a roomy, loading 546 liters.

QUESTION

The brings up the question: If Nissan Philippines' the Teana 350HV for chauffeur driving, why have an aversion like from now? Basically, the boss's wife rides in the back with him, not in front with the chauffeur. So you may conclude that the aversion by rest of the front seat is totally unclear—unless, of course, the boss prefers to do the driving. Which can happen on weekends and holidays.

If I owned a Teana 350HV I would tell the chauffeur to take the day off and drive it myself across the country. It's a pleasant to drive with its low vibration-body construction and effortless speed-seating power steering. The driver's seat is power-adjustable eight ways while the front seat, from experience, is normally inclined 9°. The normally aspirated VQ35HR engine is teamed with the same powerplant found in the Murano CUV and, mated to Nissan's Xtronic CVT (continuous variable transmission) with Adaptive Shift Control, delivers 249 hp@ 6000 rpm and 320 Nm max torque@4400 rpm.

SMOOTH

Unlike conventional automatic transmission systems that use a set of fixed gears, Xtronic CVT provides a smooth, no-shift shock gear change that reduces fuel consumption while offering a natural feeling of powerful acceleration. Nissan's latest evolution of CVT ratios about 38 percent faster than the previous version due to the additional enhancements of electronic control and hydraulic systems and the adoption of a high-performance Automatic Transmission Fluid.

The suspension system consists of MacPherson struts in front and multi-link combo at the rear with disc brakes (ventilated ones in front) on all four 17-inch wheels. ABS with EBD and brake assist, Vehicle Dynamic Control, limit-and-side airbags and front parking sensors are standard equipment. The intelligent key allows one-touch locking and unlocking of doors and trunk and, interlinked with the push button ignition, ensures great theft security.

The Teana sedan is a comfort and smoothness, not high performance although the Teana always has adequate power on tap. After driving a V6 car like the Teana, you don't feel like driving a four-pot again. The Teana can handles surprisingly well in negotiating corners at moderate speed and remains cool and composed running flat out at highway roads. The top speed clock is 210 kph, suitably swift for a car like this and weight. Not really so silent as its 2.5 liter sibling, the 3.5-liter Teana emits a muffled V6 exhaust guard which can let the Bears know and with every proof of the throttle. For car buffs, it's a delighted sound track.

UPGRADE

The levels of driving comfort and operational stability have been upgraded with a right body structure built with 980 MPa Ultra Steel with light weight and high tensile-strength characteristics similar to a Formula standard vehicle's. A FF-L (front engine, front wheel drive, large) platform equipped with a six pillar, beam chassis structure design, forms a solid secretary zone to protect the occupants from the shock of a collision.

The interior's large cabin theme with dark wood trim gives an airy and light feeling, a refreshing change from the usual monotone black or gray. However, sooner or later the beige leather seats and door panels can serve to get smudged and a bit grimy. This, along with the difficulty of parking such a long car, is about the only drawback I can think of to the ultimate Teana. At P1.998 million, it's the most sensible, smoothest and most comfortable long-range cruiser for long trips this summer.

TODAY'S SLAMPER STICKER DEFINITION: Condescension (noun): a place where everybody talks, nobody listens and every body disagrees later on.

WINDSHIELD
CRACK REPAIR
NOT REPLACEMENT! EMISSION (TEST)
OPEN ON SUNDAYS!

ON THE ROAD

Aida Santos-Mendoza

Casaffordable returns with a new freebie!
NISSAN
SHIFT_the way you move
TOTALLY AWESOME PROMO!
FREE
40+1pt. SAFETY CHECKUP
Service Excellence Plus
Summer Treat 1
Oil + Filter Change for P1,500
15% 10%
Summer Treat 2
15% 15%
Certified Nissan Trained Technicians
Genuine Nissan Parts
Affordable Casa Services
"CASA na abot-kaya."
NISSAN Casaffordable

Car maintenance 101...

From page B2-1

are becoming more and more advanced, it does not have a mechanism to remove all the impurities in the oil and dispose of it quickly so the only option is to replace it in a container until that container can be removed and disposed of properly. Most people still buy the most expensive engine oil they can afford but put in the cheapest oil filter from the store. It simply does not matter how fancy an oyster simply because they think the oil will do its job of protecting the engine. But who will protect the oil? Hint: **but the answer with their new high-performance Hybrid Sports Oil Filters.** Dell Santos, jr. of Emperor Motorsports, the official HBI distributor in the Philippines, says that their new line of HBI Hybrid Sports Oil Filters features special filtration design and a woodpulp filter magnet that minimizes oil pressure drop and increase flow by 30 percent compared to most normal OEM-quality oil filters available in themselves (as already superior to most all the shelf oil filters offered by generic to premium) brands. The HBI hybrid sports oil filters also feature better filtration, filtering the engine oil at 20 microns, whereas most OEM quality oil filters are at 35 microns, an improvement of 20 percent in oil filtration. Big footage ensures that with most consumable parts, it is still highly advised to replace the oil filter every 6 months or 10,000 kilometers, whichever comes first. For aggressive / sporty driving, the oil and oil filter should be changed at half the stated limit.

Next time we'll delve into spark plugs.

Travel cool with Prestone Coolant "rain or shine"

Summer is supposed to be the dry season in the country, but not this time. According to...

...cool weather license PAGASA, we experienced a "wet summer" this year that can bear long rainstorm from March to May, due to the La Niña phenomenon. This could be a reasonable worry since this dangerous months that thousands of Filipino families casualty take a road trip to provincial destinations.

If you are one of those planning to make that long drive this summer, better have your car checked as the weather can be unpredictable. It helps survey in the morning or evening on the afternoon.

Aside from the usual check-up of your brakes, lights and oil, you should also be careful when you put in your car's cooling system. After all, a car's optimum operating temperature is around 90 degrees Celsius. Any temperature is maintained. Otherwise, engine overheating could develop.

Most motorists today are unaware that merely using the water to fill a radiator won't be enough to prevent overheating. What car owners don't know is keeping a car in tip-top shape requires regular care of a coolant or antifreeze as experts call it, to prevent overheating, rust and corrosion, thus keeping your cooling system safe from damages at your hand.

Unfortunately, water has been the primary liquid being used in most radiators for a long time now since it is readily available – but the practice should be changed. Water easily reaches a boiling point at 100 degrees Celsius and it can quickly overwork a car's cooling system. Water also adds to corrosion and sediments that our cooling system – and the engine's replacement cost components could be very costly, if not time-consuming.

To ensure safe travel, car experts recommend using Prestone coolant in your cooling system. Prestone coolant has special additives called "inhibitors" which prevents damage to metal or rubber, keeping vital parts from potentially dangerous rust or clogging.

The protection is important to keep the engine cooling system in top top shape all year long – rain or shine.

It also helps raise the boiling point of water inside the radiator. Prestone Coolant is a mixture of Prestone Coolant and distilled water, and the ideal ratio is 50-50 Prestone Coolant and distilled water mixture. Prestone Coolant enables the vehicle to perform better and keeps the engine at the right temperature, thereby preventing overheating.

Keeping these right proportions in your engine's cooling is crucial. Too much anti-environmental. Should certain high-quality products like Prestone Coolant to ensure a "hassle free" ride. After all, its special formulation has been tried and tested to keep your engine safe and environmental, especially when the weather condition starts turning less than friendly.

Be careful when you put in your car's cooling system. Use only products like Prestone Coolant that have been designed to keep your car's engine running in its optimum, no matter the weather condition.

SUN-GARD
Change your view of what window films can do for you.
See more clearly with Sun-Gard window films
Made in the USA.
Visit our website
www.sungardphil.com

Car maintenance 101: Engine oils

SKID MARKS
Butch Santos

I'LL BE writing a series of maintenance-related articles in layman's terms to help you understand how and why things work, so I have some to understand them, coming from a non-mechanic but enthusiast's point of view. This is not meant to give a detailed technical explanation of the subjects discussed, but as a means for the reader to have a basic understanding of how things work, their importance and the consequences of neglecting maintenance work on their cars. The whole point of the upcoming series is to increase the awareness of the foodies about their auto and hopefully discipline them to maintain their cars properly and religiously.

Your car's engine is the heart, and it needs blood, as in this case motor oil for it to function properly. Oil serves two purposes: to lubricate the engine, and to extract heat and carry it away from the engine. If the oil's lubricating and heat extracting properties have worn away due to age and normal wear, your engine will start operating excessively hot and require it to work harder to deliver the power it was designed to generate, thereby consuming more fuel. Think of your blood with either very high cholesterol injection like excessive salt, sugar or cholesterol pumping through your heart, and you get the picture that your engine will go through with old engine oil. Change your oil regularly and use good-quality oil.

Make sure to follow your car's recommended oil viscosity. Using oil that is thicker or thinner than stated can have negative effects on your engine. For example, most modern gasoline cars from Honda, Toyota, Mitsubishi and Nissan require 5W-30 fully synthetic engine oil. According to Carlos Gonzalez Head Philippines, should you use thicker viscosity oil such as 20W-50, the higher viscosity will increase winding and pumping losses in your engine's operation, increasing fuel consumption and in some cases, generate excessive heat. Gonz says that with their 20OV line-up of ultra-high performance engine oils as an example, one should wait exactly to the recommended oil viscosity to get the proper balance of lubrication, heat protection, reduction in oil blow-by, reduce oil fumes escape through the oil control rings of your engine's cylinder, fuel efficiency and good emissions. The same holds true for all high performance fully synthetic oils.

Another way to look at it is imagine swimming in a pool filled with water versus a pool filled with molasses. It will be harder to swim in a pool filled with molasses than that of water, conversely, a lot of high performance engines require super using thick viscosity oil, such as the Honda's Mugen Sirius engines require thick engine oil for better thermal stability under high RPM operations such as spirited driving or motorsports. These engines are designed to use thicker oil such as 20W-40 or higher. Searching to a thinner viscosity fuel might decrease it's thermal stability at the point at which oil pressure starts to become inconsistent and is unable to supply enough oil through the engine's internals, as well as the oil shear point, wherein oil starts to completely liquefy approaching the viscosity of water, and with it, the inability to believe your engine AND to extract heat away from the engine.

With the advances in the lubricants side of things, one often ignored component is the oil filter itself, which can be likened to our kidneys. Our kidneys filter out the impurity in our bloodstream and deposit these harmful toxins into our excretory systems. While our

CAR BOY

BRIDGESTONE
THIS SUMMER HAVE A WORRY FREE JOURNEY.
BUY TWO PASSENGER CAR or SUV TIRES AND GET
FREE JOURNEY COMPANIONS*
POTENZA, TURANZA, ER 91, DUELER
*SUBJECT ONLY AT SELECTED BRIDGESTONE OUTLETS.
Promo period runs from April 15, 2011 to June 15, 2011
GET LIMITED BRIDGESTONE SHIRTS AND STAINLESS STEEL TUMBLERS

BEWARE OF THE
STI
ADDICTION
STI A-LINE
Also available in STI 2.5MT/L Impreza 2.0R-S.
SUBARU BOXER
Feel the breathtaking power of the turbocharged Boxer Engine and the animated poise of Symmetrical AWD of the STI A-Line, now made even more addictive with its Automatic Transmission with Manual mode.
SUBARU
ALL WHEEL DRIVE
Motorimage
www.motorimage.net

Lito Thelma Sioson Sarijuan

LIFESTYLE Home & Entertaining

Bigger, more diverse, more colorful–Manila FAME gets supersized

Starting this October, all local trade shows aimed at the global market will merge into a unified but more varied trade show

INTERIOR designer Maja Dilnarez-Co, designer of Manila FAME's special setting

By Aita T. Vergara

THERE'S DEFINITELY strength in numbers. Organizers and exhibitors at the recently concluded Manila FAME International have recognized the need to band together to project a single image to the world.

Starting this October, all local trade shows aimed at the international market, including popular ones such as Manila Now and Gifts Now, will cease to exist in favor of a bigger, more diverse version of Manila FAME.

At the same time, a good number of furniture exhibitors at the recent four-day show held at SMX in Pasay City presented pieces that were more colorful and whimsical than those featured in previous shows. The use of bright colors such as red, purple and turquoise, for instance, was a general reflection of the market's buoyant mood, said home accessories exhibitor Marlon Schmidt of Firma.

Leonie International, which has been exporting furniture since the early '80s, wanted to share Firma's outlook.

Aside from its earth-tone staples, the company produced an updated version of the iconic peacock chair (the one countless beauty queens in the '70s, including the late Miss Universe Amparo Muñoz, sat on after being crowned) made of wool, almost neon-like strips of polyethylene woven on an aluminum frame.

"There's also this current trend among buyers to source pieces that are versatile enough to be used both indoors and outdoors," said Reginel Locsin, the company's marketing manager.

The bi-annual show is divided into furniture and fashion accessories. When he assumed office sometime last year, Department of Trade Industry (DTI) Secretary Gregory Domingo announced plans to merge Manila-FAME's April edition and consolidate everything in October due to the dwindling number of buyers.

But DTI, through the Center for Trade Promotion and Mission (CETRAM), its marketing arm, decided this year to retain the April edition. CTP is gearing up for better times ahead by partnering with design Center Philippines to help manufacturers, especially those into resort productions, update their designs.

BIGGER C3

Bigger, more diverse, more colorful —Manila FAME gets supersized

INDAYEN basket bags by S.C. Navarro

VICKY Bendinyan with Ish Mari Navarro-Miranda and architect Jj Antonio Navarro of S.C. Navarro

From page C1

DTI has also tapped the assistance of New York-based Filipino designer Jesse Sinfuat to use her extensive network to put together a team of international experts and local talents to collaborate on producing collections, not just products, involving a cross-section of industries that would appeal to a global market. Sinfuat is reportedly doing it pro bono.

Mining the past

Now on its 33rd edition, Manila FAME also took the opportunity to look into the future by mining its rich past through a special setting, dubbed "Tradizional: Materials, Skills, Directions," designed by interior designer Maja Ortuoste Co.

Co, who sets the tone of the pieces chosen in the redevelopment of the department-run Pico public market, removed tiers of pieces from the '50s to the new millennium, from the traditional inkwell-carved furniture pieces done by Pampanga craftsmen to sleek, metal-winning chairs designed by Kenneth Cobonpue.

The setting not only focused on the evolution of design within industries and regions, but also within certain families. Co, for instance, featured Jerry Cobonpue's iconic "Lolas" from stacks of wood from the '80s alongside her son Kenneth's newer, lighter and more avant-garde pieces.

Co also highlighted Bisig woodwind shell, the big three materials used by many of the country's leading designers and exporters. Thus, bodacious chairs made of shell by Bisayas also had a place of honor at the exhibit, as well as iconic abaca bags by Cora Jacob.

"Some" became the operative word, said Co, as the past 30 years or so produced a wealth of export-worthy pieces that were too many to be featured in a limited setting.

Apart from the lack of time, Co had to strike the right balance between furniture pieces...admittedly, the area is almost every trade show—and fashion accessories.

Some not a few of the pieces were no longer in production, Co also had to borrow some of the items from collectors as well as available pieces from manufacturers. She had to edit the stash and fill in missing pieces found in OTDH's archives.

"The main purpose of this setting is to allow us to look at certain industries and challenges, and learn from both the good and the bad," Co said. "Hopefully, this self-examination would create opportunities for us Filipinos to establish a direction that serves all sectors, from home to fashion accessories."

Merging

Domingo and Beaver Gaston, newly appointed executive director of CITEM, announced the merging of sections shown separate in the presence of "leaders of 13 major business organizations representing a cross-section of exhibitors divided into regions as well as product categories."

Each business representative, represented by its head, signed the agreement. It took the government body quickly to get everyone involved to agree to its proposal. Manila FAME's October show will act as a dry run before the agreement is fully implemented next year in March.

"In effect, nothing was scrapped," Gaston clarified. "We just moved the April show to March and reminded the October show buyer that we now concentrate on these two shows instead of going to various shows scheduled throughout the year."

Since there are no venues big enough to house the so-called super-show under one roof, OTDH is considering using various venues (but Ayala Boulevard, including SMX, World Trade Center and the Philippine International Convention Center).

ROSE Alcala of Peace and Pool

DECORATIVE mirrors with wood, cloth and resin-like frames by Peace and Pool

HAND-PAINTED resin lanterns with Chinese-inspired motifs by Catalina

GREGORY Domingo, secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry

ROSITA Gaston, CITEM executive director

JERRY Cailo and Joyce Juan of Kalikasan Crafts

GILDED metal lanterns with mirror candles by Kalikasan

ROSE shell vases in Co's special setting featuring shell products

JOAN Wong of Catalina

MIKE Prado of Miles Abroad

COCK figure made of various metals by Miles Abroad

Energy drinks may not be good for kids

THEY MAY be endorsed by the biggest sick-leaves in the world, but don't be too quick to offer your motherwhose children energy drinks, even during this season, when the best of the sun can be unnerving.

In a New York Times story, Stan Gaeyn Rubin reported that high-caffeine energy drinks had been linked to excessive use of sodium or heart health problems. Rubin cited a wide-ranging review of the effects of energy drinks on children and young adults found that the beverages could pose special risks to youngsters who took medications or had chronic illnesses.

Some worrisome problems that had been associated with the drinks were heart palpitations, high blood pressure, and even cardiac arrest and death, the study said.

Rubin said the report on energy drinks that was published in the medical journal Pediatrics drew from case reports, scientific studies, and even newspaper articles. It mentioned eighteen cases taken by some countries, including eight from Texas or pediatricians of calls to children under 15 years of age.

"The study urges pediatricians to discuss the risks with patients, especially those with heart conditions and mental or behavioral disorders. The high amount of sugar may pose risks to diabetics," Rubin said.

She said that, with a caffeine content of 79.60 milligrams per 237 grams, energy drinks actually had "three times the concentration of cola drinks."

Receipt shortage

Who provides the paper for the receipts issued by taxi drivers? Whenever a re-

THE CONSUMER
Linda A. Bolido

A study says high-caffeine beverages could pose special risks to youngsters who took medications or had chronic illnesses

charge—whether operator or driver—may I suggest that a spare roll be made available, and that the driver should load the new roll as soon as he sees that he is running low?

There seems to be a way of knowing when the roll is about to run out. Paper used in the cash registers of commercial establishments, for instance, starts showing red lines along the edges to alert the cashier of the need to load a new roll.

I have been in taxis at different times of day and night where the driver is unable to issue a receipt because he has run out of paper. Of course, by now he just uses filing to issue a receipt. But, with taxis spending 24 hours a day drivers should make sure they are able to issue a receipt to everyone who asks for it.

I also wish taxi meters were placed in spots that would make it easier for passengers to read them. Nice seats of some big companies have meters on the dashboard, so passengers do not have to break their necks trying to read them.

But in many taxis, the meters are positioned in almost floor level, with the stick shift blocking the view most of the time. Sometimes, it takes a while before I am even able to tell if the taxi is still using the old rate or the new one, because I only get occasional glimpses of the meter.

Camping gear

The Ninoy Electric & Lighting Corp. (Pelco) says it has light emitting diode (LED) rechargeable emergency lamps for rent by people who are planning camping trips this time of year. It guarantees that the lamps are merely thin, safe and energy efficient.

They are available as camping lamp, multi-function lamp with AM/FM radio, and strong torch. Pelco adds it has 20 kinds of LED rechargeable emergency lamps for both outdoor and indoor use.

Rechargeable lamps, usually should be a must-have for households, for those times when a power failure occurs. They provide more ready light and use cable. LED lamps are supposed to consume less energy, and are more efficient than incandescent and halogen light sources.

Send letters to The Consumer, Lifestyle Section, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 1998 Chino Roces Ave. cor. Monzerrat and Yague Sts., 1204 Makati City; fax 897-2792-94; or e-mail lbolido@inquirer.com.ph.

Exhibit of Amorsolo's works done in cross-stitch

"FERNANDO AMORSOLO'S IN THE DRE Cross-Stitch" will be unveiled May 4-5 in Dakota F. Old Magsaysay, and May 6-12 at SL, Old Magsaysay, Bridgeside, in Mandaluyong. The exhibit will feature eight works of Fernando Amorsolo rendered in cross-stitch using DMC threads, plus four more cross-stitch re-interpretations by Bebot, Amorsolo's daughter. The finished cross-stitch patterns will also be available for sale. DMC (Dollfus-Mieg and Company) threads are made from long, fiber Egyptian cotton, which do not fade. It is distributed locally by Precise Global Inc.

Speech programs in UP

The University of the Philippines Department of Speech Communication and Theater Arts (DSCTA) is conducting its annual Summer Programs for children, teens, adults and professionals from May 2-May 6, 2011. The two-hour workshops covering Interactive Diction Performance, Professional Skills and Speech for the Professionals and Business People and the Radio for teachers is only Php 1,000 per participant (grade 1-graduate) discount for those who only register by April 22. Call 9248888 or 9240224; e-mail dsctaupd@gmail.com.

Pacquiao-Mosley fight in Discovery Suites

Discovery Suites airs the live coverage of the Manny Pacquiao fight vs WBA Welterweight Super Champion Shane Mosley match on MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas, on May 8, 8 a.m., in its Colombian function room. Ride a P1,000 per person inclusive of Sunday brunch buffet and both rounds and ties. Call 7168888, 9148888, e-mail fb@thediscovery.com.ph; visit www.discoverysuites.com.

Smart gadget fest

The Smart Bro Great Gadget Fair Fest, a carnival of mall events with special deals and discounts on computers, laptops, tablets and smartphones, will be in SM Mall in Singapore April 29-May 1, SM Manila in Bonifacio, May 13-15, and SM Bacoor in Cavite, June 3-5. SM Dasmariñas, CT-10 and Sarangani Mall in Banawan July 1-3. There are also no-gadget trial stations and games in Facebook and Twitter; visit www.facebook.com/smartbrocommunications or follow @smartbro posts on Twitter.

Free water-proof bag

"My Summer Goodie Bag: On Every Goodie That Summer" at once lets you have a water-repellent bag, shoulder type, with every even P1,000

single-receipt order from My City Delivery. You may also buy the bag from City Delivery for P200. A portion of the proceeds will go to the UN World Food Program. Call 8978181 or visit www.citydelivery.com.ph for list of restaurants.

A HEALTHY AND DELICIOUS INDULGENCE... THE GARDENIA WAY!

Gardenia Wheat Raisin Ham and Jam Sandwich

Ingredients:

4 slices Gardenia High-Fiber Wheat Raisin Loaf
2 slices cooked ham (sliced lengthwise)
2 tsps spreadable cream cheese
2 tsps sugar-free strawberry jam
lettuce leaves

Procedure:

1. Spread a teaspoon of cream cheese on one side of the bread and a teaspoon of sugar-free strawberry jam on the other piece.
2. Top with ham and lettuce leaves. Cover with another slice of bread. Serve with juice or coffee.

Preparation time: 10 minutes
Number of servings per recipe: 2 sandwiches

BAKESHOP SETS BENEFIT RUN ON MAY 15

Goldilocks Bakeshop and Foodshop will have a fun run on May 15 in Port Brothers Global City, Taguig, to celebrate the company's 45th anniversary. Running coach Pia de la Cruz and celebrity Dingdong Dantes will lead runners in the 21K, 10K, 5K and Mini's divisions. Organizers in the Run Bro events team. Registration is ongoing at Bonus and SOM in Bonifacio High Street, Toby's SM Mall of Asia, Power Sports Glorietta and Trinoma; The Athletic Feet Alabang Town Center and Robinson's Galleria; and Goldilocks Bagalay branches on Shaw Boulevard. The racing kit includes a New Balance singlet, timing chip, bib numbers, discount coupon, race analysis and a finisher's tee. The event will be the benefit of the Goldilocks Foundation and its FREE (Feeding Program, Education, Environment, and Disaster Assistance) activities.

Save and get summer rewards with BPI Real Thrills

BPI has made it easier for you to save and have fun this summer. Travel to your favorite destination – drive with the best on-the-road services care at Petron or fly to a sunshine spot of your choice with Cebu Pacific.

Celebrate summer with Bench, Kashieca, Cebu and other top fashion brands. We'll even help you face the bill when you shop at Aldo, Charles and Keith and Sarah. Travel in style with free or discounted Samsonite luggage or bags from the Travel Club.

With these Real Thrills in place, your dream destination this summer could very well be the BPI branch nearest you. Simply open an account or make an additional deposit to your existing Get Started or Mad-Saver savings account at any BPI or BPI Family Savings Bank branch. To know more, log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com.

Promo Period: 4 April 2011 to 15 May 2011. BPI Savings Account No. 1144-1000-10 (2011 Member FDIC. Maximum deposit insurance for each depositor P500,000.

GROUP several artworks of your kids and hang in the hallway, family room or playroom.

Do-it-yourself

With Anton Barretto and Marissa Lagos

Priceless idea: Your children's art

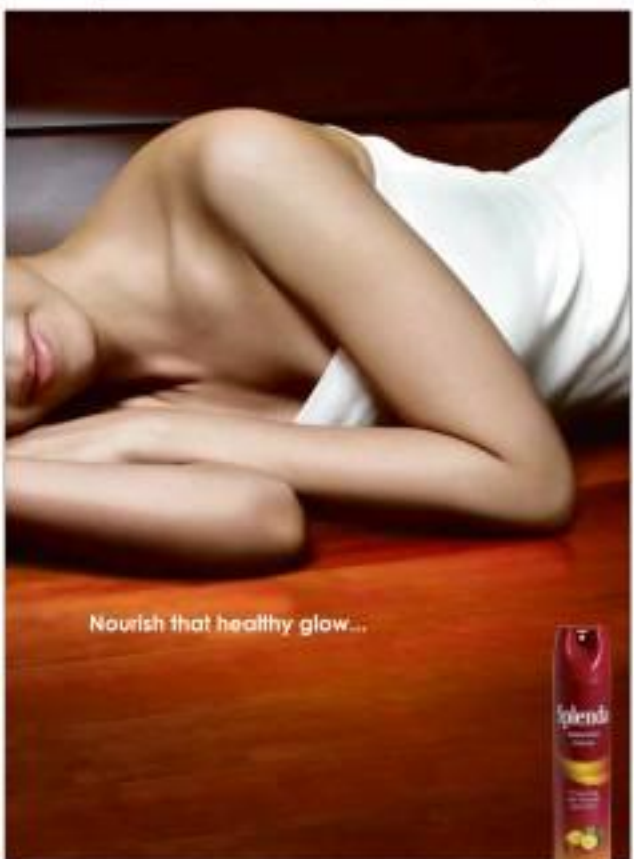
HERE IS an inexpensive yet priceless DIY idea —framing artworks, drawings or sketches of your children will definitely add color and character to any wall in your home.

This is a perfect way to lend aureus to the walls of your children's room, playroom, family room, even a hallway. Artworks of children are usually fresh and vivid in color. The children's innocence shines through and can awaken child hood memories or remind you of the good times with your children.

The charm and whimsy of a child's hand will definitely imbue your home with character and warmth.

And as your children grow up, seeing you proud of their endeavor will probably inspire them more to release their creative side.

LEARNING colorful/crable artworks add whimsy to a tablescape.



...on your fabulous furniture. Apply Splenda regularly. Splenda Furniture Polish contains gentle effective cleansers that help keep leather, wood, and vinyl surfaces immaculately clean and positively gleaming.

eans, Shines, and Protects!

FRAME artworks of your kids to add a fresh and colorful accent to your wall.

Summer courses at Filipinas Heritage Library

THE FILIPINAS Heritage Library on Makati Avenue offers a four-day creative writing workshop for teens, 11-18 years old, on May 18, 20, 25, and 27. Workshop fee is P3,000 inclusive of handouts, materials, snacks and certificate. A down payment of P1,000 is needed for reservation. Deadline is May5.

Storytelling for Kids 4-10 years old and Stories on Dancing for Parents and Guardians will be on April 30, May 7, 14 and 21, 9-11 a.m. Sheenia will be given tips on how to choose the right books and identify reading difficulties in children.

Fee is P500 per day, inclusive of a children's book, an apron and seminar materials. Discount will be given to those who register for all four sessions.

Basic Travel Writing with a tour of the Subiyan Festival in Quezon will be on May 10, 19 and May 15. Lecturer is Rolene Strawser, consulting editor of the Philippine edition of Lonely Planet magazines, and former editor of MTV Ink and Pulp Magazine. Workshop fee is P4,500 inclusive of workshop handouts and materials, tour, transportation, handouts, materials, meals and a certificate. A down payment of P2,000 is required for slot reservation. Deadline is May 2.

A 5 percent discount will be given to those who pay in full on or before the deadline for all the courses. Call 8921801, 0917-5610932; e-mail thein.mail@gmail.com; visit www.filipinasheritage.org.ph.

SUMMER HAWAIIAN SHOES

The Spring/Summer 2011 collection of Okabashi, a Hawaiian brand of footwear, was recently launched in a white Luau party at Terrazas de Punta Fuego, in Batangas. "Oka" means ocean and "Kai," Comfort. The Makai and Manoa Collection has premium materials, refined outsoles and durable construction. It is exclusively distributed by the Primer Group of Companies.

Available in Ben | Tex | Rust | Ermita.

LIFESTYLE Parenting

Check out Mars, talk to a fish, operate on a guy and play with robots

BOND WITH YOUR KIDS

20 things to do with your kids at the Science Discovery Center

By Pati Poblete

"THE THING the kids enjoy most is the planetarium," says Nida Fortified Science Discovery Center (NFSDC) operations manager Arturo Carballo Jr. He is talking about their 15-meter 3D planetarium equipped with digital surround sound.

But there's more to the NFSDC than just the planetarium. There are various exhibits and interactive features for your kids to explore. Carballo adds, "We give the kids a reason for learning while having fun."

And it's not just the kids—adults can enjoy, too. "When I go around, I see parents having just as much fun as their kids," says Carballo.

Parents can also choose to hold kiddie birthday parties at the NFSDC. "We have different themes and packages."

The NFSDC makes sure there are always new things for kids to explore. Tie-ups with Cartoon Network and Discovery Channel will bring forth new galleries in the near future.

We spent a Saturday afternoon at NFSDC, checking out the galleries and exploring the exhibits with our guide Dede. This is what we did and this is what you can do with your kids, too, when you decide to visit.

1. Try virtual volleyball. There are different games to be played at the Smart Media City gallery, including feature Xtreme games that you play with your body like virtual volleyball, soccer, and more. Virtual volleyball was a hit with the kids.

2. Play Plants vs Zombies. There are computer kiosks at the Smart Media City gallery where you can play popular computer games like Plants vs Zombies and Tetris Twist.

3. Build your own car. The Transportation Section gallery allows you to use a computer to choose parts and build your own automobile.

4. Fly. The Flight Simulator will allow you and your kids to experience what it's like to fly an aircraft.

5. See the first automobile in the Philippines, which has been restored by Philjamar Shell.

citibank savings

Cash in 2 hours.

Dream vacation. Powered by Citi.

1.26%** | Apply for a Citi Personal Loan at a low monthly add-on rate of 1.26% for loans starting at P250,000 and get a:

FREE Boracay Trip when you apply online + chance to win a Singapore Travel Package for 2

Call (02) 423 3777

Visit citibank.com.ph

**Terms and conditions apply. Available at selected Citi Express branches and subject to credit evaluation. Terms and conditions at www.citibank.com.ph. Citibank N.A. is regulated by the BSP. Citibank Savings and Citi Personal Loan are products of Citibank N.A. ©2009 Citibank Savings and Citi Personal Loan are service marks of Citigroup Inc.

GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS

A. LIPPY BY JES HARPER

PUGAD BABOY BY PH. LUYOR

DICK TRACY

LOVEMORE BY ELIZABETH SCHORGELD

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT

KIKO MACHINE BY FRANCO ABRIOL

SEIN BY DANIEL SHELTON

HUTTS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOK BY FRANK COLL

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANK CEDRIC

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

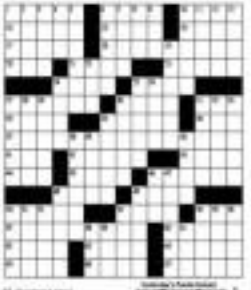
Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. For more programs or www.sudoku.com

Concepts Sudoku

			3	7				
			1		6	2		
		3					5	
	9		6					5
4					8			9
7		2	4	9				6
6	8		5				4	
		1				5		
		5	2	4	7	6	8	

Difficulty Level ★★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CORINNE Goh, Carl and Faye Cervanes

CATCH Ong, Oliver Sedio, Richard Tio

LEAH Pena-James Barrera, Angelina Calero

YOHNE Yao, Kimberly Jing, Mark Yao

WILBERT and Rebeca Lee

JEREMY and Teresa Colombini

Celebrating 150 years of exquisite watchmaking

IT'S NOT in a small village in Switzerland in 1860 that a young, talented craftsman named Louis-Ulysse Chopard established his watchmaking.

After changing hands and going to the founder's grandson, **Paul-Andre Chopard**, the company was finally sold to Karl Scheufele in 1920. The company's 150th heritage made Chopard a world's most successful and acclaimed brand for its exquisite design.

Today, dabbings, the brilliant and aesthetic refinement, design and perfection that distinguished Chopard watches of the time are the same noble qualities that, after 150 years, make Chopard one of the world's most exquisite and prestigious unwrapped watch brands to exist, palengke.

Adding to for the milestone happening was Chopard Asia's managing director, **Patrick Svensund**. He welcomed the partners together with the two brothers whose names are synonymous with perfection: watch brands, **Empress** and **Ivan Tan**, at the posh Chopard boutique in Greenbelt 5, dabbings. Cocktails flowed during the exhibition of Chopard's 150th anniversary collection.

Models cultivated wearing several eye-catching pieces like the Happy Sport Watches, the iconic and famous ladies' watch that known to timeless elegance; Happy Diamonds, a collection of meticulously positioned and designed bling bling where the diamonds create total freedom of movement; and the Mille Miglia, Chopard's sports watch for fast, enthralling performance and precision, palengke.

Lao Lianben launches first book

Forty years of capturing the hearts of art lovers with his awesome, ingenious abstract art, their unprecedented and multi-awarded Lao Lianben, together with Bookmart Book Store, introduced a selection of his newest works in his first ever book, "Ito Buat Ko Persona," palengke.

The launch was held at The Atrium in Podium, and featured such numerology-philic as beauty president Wright Statuto, TV5 president Ray Espinosa, painters and sculptor extraordinaire Ang Alber, investment and dedicated Lao collector, profes-

Photos by Alex Vlat Rogero
powered by nuno MAC nuno

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH
Maurice Arnaudin

Artist Lao Lianben launches first book

ARTIST Lao Lianben

NBS merchandise director Ian Sandra Ramos-Padilla

Stung by the bee: Groupon Philippines has arrived

The buzz was out, dabbings, during the launch at the new Bobot Restaurant and Lounge (formerly Peyote), where loads of awaiters (with some fresh faces, at least) got ready by the Queen Bee, Lori Villafuerte, president and founder of Groupon Philippines, hosted the event for the innovative online shopping craze, which had guests at Rockwell's mall of laptop terminals.

Hosted by "G man" **Elie Salvador**, the new website's got its "Groupon" as it played "It the Deal is Right," with winners awarding an iPod Touch and other GCs from Groupon's partner merchants, which. The two winners received their own iPod to begin "Open exclusive online shopping experience" for "every day, and anywhere they need to go. Pod but, fold!

"This is really a very exciting time, as we educate our partners and subscribers about the newest form of shopping," Villafuerte said. "In less months the site has grown to 200,000 subscribers. The convenience is what makes it stand out."

"We aim to make Groupon Philippines a daily fix for today's shoppers," she added. "Where they wake up each morning they can check Groupon's site to see what they can do, where they can go, and where they can eat."

Beginner or Groupon site nonetheless-nonetheless, the palengke, Groupon Philippines, formerly known as Buysocial Philippines, deals to two deals-a-day for new groupons on the website.

The launch was supported by Sobel Restaurant. The fun, 90 Square and Studio

VINGIE Ramos and Simon Javier

ROBERT and Bobot Crespo, Jay Bonanno

HAMAMO Executive Tan (far right), managing director of Corporate, exclusive distributor of Chopard watch; Edwin Ong, Chopard duty managing director Patrick Hermanni; Freddie Go; Bally Tio and Albert Villareal

TRIXIE Jan Lingling Yao, Bridal Up

BEA Gonzalez, David Sabor's David Chevron, Jay Cuadrasos

TIPPI Ocampo

EVENT Ivan De Salvador

JEN Tang, Kathy Reinoso, Jericho San Miguel and Elaine Palanca

Gerwat watch!

Tagged as "Lions" the party had the aim of serious coming in full support of Chivas Regal's Gerwat watch, premium scotch whisky brand at Members Only Club.

The highlight of the happening was a blind challenge that had two scotch brands with equally world-class distinction, endorsed with silent male patron by Mare Hendon, marketing manager of Pernod Ricard Philippines Inc., and dashing host Bershova Fernandez.

Without any doubt, dabbings, Chivas Regal 18 was the preference of the crowd, with an average rating of 4.84 percent against the competitor's 3.84 percent.

Take had one of surprises, palengke, as Jaguar's Mary Soong dressed up in sweat awesome luxury car, the 2011 XF—and it's client powered! And surprise, surprise, Jaguar gave away an exclusive trip to the Jaguar UK plant through Passport to Luxury to the deserved buyer of the 2011 XF of the night, no less, mwahhugs.

Take was presented by Pernod Ricard Philippines and co-sponsored by Jaguar Philippines, D'Bud Watches and Pilot Inside.

EVENT host Rashon Fernandez, U-Bixt Watches Jason Seong, Jaguar's Mark Seong, regional marketing manager of Chivas Brothers Limited Darren Hessie, marketing manager of Pernod Ricard Philippines Inc. Mare Hendon

ALBERTITO Lopez, Marvel Crespo, Francis Rubio, Vince Arriola

ATENEO Ex Manila's Leo Garcia and National Artist Salvador Bernal

TRIXIE and Michelle Tuvera-to

WYE Tuvera and Mahie Santos

ABS-CBN's Enzo Lopez, Groupon Economic president Lori Villafuerte, Cody Villafuerte, Groupon Economic VP sales and operation Jeanne Sison

GLAIDA Pantaleon and Brent Javier

ERIC Cea, Regine King, Flo Campos

Is your insect repellent lotion safe for kids?
Choose one that doesn't contain DEET. Like New Guard, with the breakthrough ingredient PICARIDIN. It's tough on bugs, gentle on skin.
Guard is available in Puregold, Robinsons, Shopwise, Waltermart, South Supermarket and other leading supermarket nationwide.

20 things to do with your kids at the Science Discovery Center

From page B1

6. Pretend you're on a game show. How well do you know the human body? Take the Gerontology quiz and beat the other contestants.

7. Operate on a guy. This is just like "Operation," but on a much bigger scale. Remove the guy's body parts without touching the metal edges. It's a fun experience for both kids and adults.

8. Guess what that smell is. The Gerontology gallery has an exhibit called Smell Isn't, which allows kids to learn how humans and fungi can cause body odor. And yes, if you're brave, you can even play the Smell Itself game—guess which part of the body produces that nasty smell.

9. Make a gay lump. Float out what makes people burp by making a big gay drink from a giant can of soda. Don't forget to watch the burp-o-meter!

10. Avoid being eaten by a leopard. Check out the Reel Shadow Wall. This interactive exhibit will help kids understand the science behind being scared. Collect falling facts from a wire and step moving when the screen tells you. Be careful...there's a leopard running to attack!

11. Visit Blair Drumb. Mary outdoor hanging to room is spacious. Sit in the comfort of the planetarium, explore illustrious wilderness, and find out how humans have been invading the red planet for decades now.

12. Help a baby bear reach his mom. Learn about climate change at the Arctic Ice exhibit. Watch how melting ice caps affect animal life. Block the bear's path to enjoy a baby bear with his mother polar bear.

13. Talk to a fish. Meet Mr. T, the eel and he's talking. Yes, Mr. eel answers your questions about life as a fish and his days underwater. He's funny. One kid asked him, "Do you have PSP?" and Mr. T said, "We don't have PSP here in the ocean and I don't have hands to even play with it."

14. Woo with Ashley and learn about the history of robots.

15. Play with robots.

16. See the world's tallest building.

17. Experience an earthquake. The GSD Science gallery allows you to feel tremors and see how cities can be affected by an earthquake.

18. Send a time capsule message. Take a picture and send a message to your e-mail or anyone else's. You can even send an e-mail face years into the future!

19. See how gummy works. Check out Gravitron.

20. Check out the bug zoo, which lets you see critters up close and experience a 4Dadventure where flies without any real dangers.

The Ayala Museum Science Discovery center is an Ayala-Lasa Entertainment thrill, Mall of Asia. Entrance is beside Bridge Arena. Operating hours are 10 a.m.-8 p.m. every day. Entrance fee is P300 per person.

INSIDE the planetarium

NANO plays with robots; at right, kids play virtual volleyball

A Whole New WORLD of Privileges from Allied Bank, PNB and Philippine Airlines.
Frequent flyers and jet-setters will surely be amazed with more exclusive privileges from Allied Bank, PNB and Philippine Airlines. Currently, Mabuhay Miles World MasterCard cardholders already have the convenience of the following perks: access to their credit line anywhere in the world, seamless peso-dollar billings, a high credit limit and so much more. Now, more Allied Bank and PNB are co-issued partners of Philippine Airlines, Mabuhay Miles World MasterCard cardholders can enjoy elite treatment beyond the skies with their Mabuhay Miles Elite Membership Card. With exclusive access to the Mabuhay Lounge, as well as other perks like priority check-in, boarding and baggage handling, and a lot of other bonuses, each journey is sure to be a luxurious travel experience.
So where you fly. By, take the WORLD with you.
The Mabuhay Miles World MasterCard

Now that's just the MILES
For more information, call 818-8181 or log on to www.mabuhaymilesworldmastercard.com

JAGGY and Jool look for their lost love on Google Earth.

Cooking and baking classes for kids

KIDS COOKING teacher Ruby Veloso-Barrera's school, Tiny Kitchen, is once again open to ambitious young culinary enthusiasts. Children learn to cook in a safe environment where classes are both educational and completely hands-on.

Tiny Kitchen has been running since 1998 and more than two 3,000 students have passed through its doors, many of whom come back year after year. This summer, there are classes beginning March until the end of June.

"That's why Master what kids like to cook," says Teacher Ruby, who taught herself to bake at age eleven.

There are courses for kids age 4-6, 7-12, and a teens' course for 13- to 16-year-olds. Kids also have the basic course, where six to 8 children attend after-hours everyone than 20-hour specialized courses to choose from, such as Around the World Pasta 1 - 10, Just Desserts, Cake Decorating, Pinoy Favorites, Flavors of Asia, Around Classics, Flavors of Europe and more.

Each course consists of five sessions and you can vacate your own schedule. You can arrange to come once a week, two or three times a week or even daily. Classes are held Monday-Saturday, with morning and afternoon sessions.

The school is at 31 Scout Tobias, Quezon City. Call 410-2176 or 0917-3283845, visit www.tinykitchen.com.ph

Pastry-making classes

Dorothy Reyes offers cooking, baking and cake decorating classes for the summer. Topics include bread making, cakes, cookies and complete menus ideal for brunches and banquets. All sessions are hands-on and are designed to accommodate small groups only. Reyes is based in Quezon City. Dorothy's Cooking School is the author of best-selling cookbook "Pinoy Dorothy's Kitchen." Call 7238122, visit www.southdalton.com.

Sun'and' promo

Sun Cellular is offering Add-On Plan P 100. The P100 are month, subscribers get a brand-new phone with unlimited Sun-to-Sun texts and 3 hours of Sun-to-Sun calls each month. Subs are receiving 81280 or a #name(s)#10 texted under a 12-month bidding period, or after Globe 1918 or a (.) 0918 under a 24-month bidding period. The plan is available for existing postpaid subscribers who have to who wish to apply for a Regular Plan (350, 450, 600, Group Plan 899, 999, 1699, Sun Broadband (Mi dono Regular Plan (595, 795, *2995, or Elite Plan (1599, 2595, 3595) as their primary line. Call 230 from your Sun cellular phone or 1800800 from any landline. Visit www.suncellular.com.ph or www.facebook.com/officialsuncellular or mem.bo/like.com.ph/suncellular.

LIFESTYLE

Entrepreneurs Celebrate Summer In The City at the CheckOut

SummerBiz Bazaar!

The first web-based POS system by PLDT for SME

PLDT CheckOut

PLDT SME Nation launches PLDT CheckOut – their hottest service this summer!

This summer just got hotter as PLDT SME Nation gave SMEs something to look forward to – the launch of their first web-based POS system last April 14, 2011 at the NBC Tent. It's a fresh take on point of sale and inventory management and will drastically change how SMEs do business.

The launch started with a press conference, held at 360's Restaurant at the Fort. SMEs then flooded the NBC tent, which was transformed into an underwater summer fest. It set up the mood as guests eagerly awaited the grand launch.

The show was kicked off by hosts Gabe Mercado and Amy Perez as they welcomed all the guests and introduced the Business Makeover Video presentation that showed how PLDT CheckOut can make the lives of SMEs so much easier.

The event was formally opened by Manny Pangilinan–Chairman and CEO, Kat Luna-Alvarado – VP and Head of PLDT SME Nation, Ariel Ayarte- Marketing Head of PLDT SME Nation and Eric Alberto – SVP & CISMG Head of PLDT.

The CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar was a fun gathering of SMEs from all over the country. There were a total of 25 booths from all industries: your favorite food stalls like Bagong, Binalot, Bibingkinitan, R. Lapid's, Potato Corner, and so on, to business booths like Go Negosyo, to beauty and lifestyle booths like Belo Essentials, Tolet's and Beyos Haircutters, to apparel like Silverworks and Island Souvenirs, among others.

Dressed in their summer attire, SMEs enjoyed the lively Caribbean music as they toured the booths of the different merchants.

They also got to try out first-hand how PLDT CheckOut can work for them! It's a web-based Point of Sale System that allows businesses to have an automated process of accepting and recording sales transactions, lets them monitor inventory levels and gives them real-time access

continued on next page

Silverworks wins Second Place in the PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar

Toby's Sports comes out as the Grand Prize Winner in the PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar

Reyes Haircutters comes in Third Place in the PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar

Crystalle Reniamo of Belo Medical Group

Boysings of North Park Joint and Papaloni Goan

Landley Gunes and Angie Abon-Gunes of Pampanga's Best, Mary Grace and Darwin Santos of Lil' People

PLDT SME Nation Area Sales Head of GMA South, Jessie Chua-Tang and Showing of Gateway Center Mikoh Zarabelle Salcedo

R. Lapid's – Ray and Victoria Lapid

PLDT SME Nation's GMA North East Business Head Jane Cabling, Go Negosyo's Mon Lopez and Tolet's Trixie Montes

PLDT SME Nation Community Consultancy Head with PR Ian Vince CEO Ong Pui

Potato Corner's Tony Tanseco and Jaime Magsaysay

Owner of Cebu's Chloe Chicharon - Chlo Bolalo

PLDT SME Nation Call 123-000 www.pldtsmeland.com.ph

See page 2 to find out more about the event >

PLDT smenation

To demonstrate just how PLDT CheckOut can change sales and inventory processes, the CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar held a fun competition among all 23 merchants to see who can sell the most in 90 minutes. All the guests were given "CheckOut money" to spend on anything their heart desired.

PLDT CheckOut made business processes more effective and convenient. Though the lines were long, transactions went very fast. In just 90 minutes, all the guests were able to go around all the booths, play games, try out all the different products and even socialize!

The bazaar was also easy to set up. Since PLDT CheckOut is a downloadable software, the stalls just installed it in their existing laptops, PCs and POS terminals. It has very low hardware requirements so there's no need to invest on new POS machines. In fact, all you need is an Internet-ready computer.

Since it's web-based, there's instant access to all the information through an online portal. Because of this, they were able to check sales in real-time. All throughout, there were live updates on transactions and guests could watch the leader board which showed each booths' progress on screens all over the tent.

At the end of the night, the top 3 sellers won cash prizes amounting to P 25,000, P 50,000 and P 100,000. The winners were Reyes Haircutters, Silverworks, and Toby's Sports respectively.

Even with all the amazing things PLDT CheckOut was able to demonstrate, these are only a few of its features. Not only does it improve internal processes, it gives business owners invaluable data they can use to their advantage.

- SMEs get access to customer information which can give valuable insight on a customer's preferences and purchase history. This knowledge gives SMEs the power to provide improved customer service.
- Entrepreneurs get reports and analytics that give them a wider view of the business that helps SMEs improve the way they do things.
- The hours wasted manually processing sales and inventory can be done at the click of a mouse. Sales and inventory processes are now error-free and businessmen are worry-free. Money and time are saved and SMEs can focus on growing their business.

There was never a dull moment during the event. SMEs had their fill of games, raffles, dance numbers, interviews and many more! It was a sizzling summer night for all the guests.

Now, SMEs have a trusted partner who can help them move at a faster pace and become globally competitive in the way they do business. With PLDT CheckOut, business is better than ever before!

SMEs and guests on a shopping spree at the PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar

Gaby Mercado and Owner of The Gumtown Guy Co Pomal

PLDT CheckOut money were given to the SMEs and guests which they can use to shop and purchase anything they wanted in the Biz Bazaar

PLDT SME Nation Regional Luzon Business Head Anthony Fernandez, Ms. Marilyn S. Cuaso of Nominal Computer Shop, Elder Samson-Lacsamana of Northern Petrol Sales&Mechanic Transport Corp.

PLDT SME Nation executives from left-right: Marinela Bautidoro, Rolando Cabanas, Alex Fernandez, Ritz Ryanlan, and Ariel Asuncion with Ron Jimenez of Barbizo Steel Reinforcing Co. (2nd from left)

Checkout Product Specialist Stephen John Brigida and Regional South Luzon Area Sales Supervisor Ricky Jimenez and Christine Casanova of Freezacy.

Merchants of the PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar used PLDT CheckOut in their booths

VP & Head of PLDT SME Nation - Ariel Luna-Aquenza, Asiacell pre-Advertising President - Miguel Ramos, General Joan of Arcadia and SMM South West Business Head - Carla Tabuena

PLDT SME Nation SMM North West Sales Head Glen Mendoza, PLDT SME Nation General Manager Ivy Lopez, SFMM executives Ramon Tan, Danny Sanz, Francis Fernandez, Sec. Victor

PLDT SME Nation Community Consultant Mike Rubio, King Lapiz, Ryan Lapiz, Nene De Leon of Holiday on Shine, Arnem Casey and Luigi Rubio of Bite Bite Zero

Gen. Manager of Happy Feet/Biz Homes and Toby's Sports Executives Toby Chualim, Jojo Chualim Jr., Bobby Chualim

The owners of Balamban Lleetyer-Cebu Homebase and Jojo Hongara

Blessing of Silverworks Dulce Gutierrez

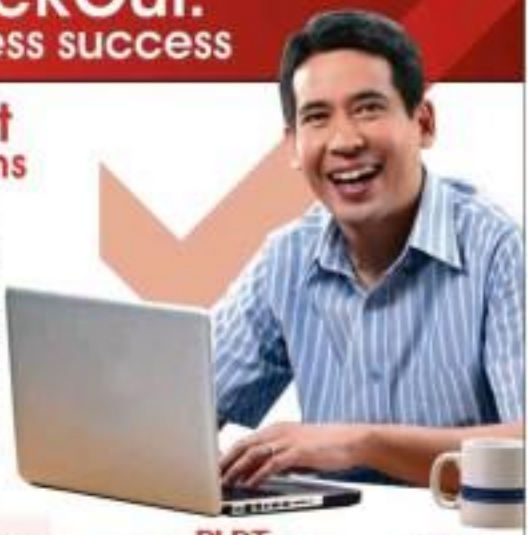
Islands Souvenirs

Zago

PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar's merchants made the event a sizzling success! (From L-R) Bibingkahan, Mister Donut, Chiken Chicharon, Balamban Lleetyer, Binalot

Thanks to PLDT CheckOut Summer Biz Bazaar's merchants for making the event a great success!

PLDT CheckOut:
A key to business success



PLDT CheckOut gives SMEs 10 reasons to grow

PLDT SME Nation aims to help businesses increase their profits and maximize efficiency while minimizing costs through various products and services made especially for their needs.

Now more than ever, PLDT recognizes that it's time for SMEs to move forward. That's why they're introducing their latest innovation for SMEs: PLDT CheckOut.

PLDT CheckOut is a web-based POS System that aims to change how SMEs do their sales and inventory. It allows businesses to have an automated process of accepting and recording sales transactions, lets them monitor inventory levels and gives them real-time access to sales analytics.

Why upgrade? Here are 10 reasons:

Real time sales information

PLDT Checkout eliminates the tedious task of polling. No matter how many stores you have, you can get information anytime! You can access your sales numbers, customer information, inventory and so on anytime, anywhere.

PLDT Check Out

Real time sales management at your fingertips

Off-site access

As long as you have Internet connection, you can access your company information through PLDT Checkout. Now, you don't have to be in-store to be in charge of everything. You can be in trade shows, on vacation, or talking to potential partners and still be aware of what's happening in your store.

POS system powered by PLDT CheckOut

Software installation is a cinch

Normally, POS installation is a pain. With the web-based PLDT CheckOut POS software, everything is hosted by PLDT. Aside from installing the software in your computer, there's nothing more you need to do.

Improved inventory control

PLDT Checkout allows you to control inventories more efficiently. Instant access to inventory and sales numbers can also significantly reduce retail loss prevention. In a multi-branch setting, inventory costs can significantly be reduced because you can track and control your inventories in real-time. You have information on on-hand, in transit and on order items hence, eliminating potential to order too much or too little.

Low cost, low maintenance

With most POS systems, you pay for the package, hardware and software. It's big money out, which may drain your cash flow. With PLDT CheckOut, you get a monthly subscription which includes software updates, maintenance and technical support.

IT spending isn't a problem

With PLDT CheckOut, there's no need for an IT person to deal with backups, software upgrades and re-configurations. It's all hosted by PLDT, saving you both time and money!

Improved sales

PLDT Checkout gives you access to customer information which can give valuable insight on a customer's preferences and purchase history. This knowledge gives you the power to provide excellent customer service. Moreover, it can give you the power to cross-sell in a multi-store operation by accessing stocks from other stores.

Faster in-store operations

With PLDT CheckOut, operations run smoother. You save the time you used to spend checking and re-checking your data. Moreover, due to faster and more efficient transactions, you can serve your customers faster giving them more satisfaction.

Low hardware requirements

PLDT CheckOut has extremely low hardware requirements. It can run on basic computers. In fact, all you need is an Internet-ready computer. The processing is done on PLDT's server and not on your workstation. There's no additional hardware needed like back up software or drives, or even a server!

PC powered by PLDT CheckOut

Eliminates workstation and operating system concerns

With PLDT CheckOut, you have the flexibility to use any type of computer. Whatever your current system is, there's no need to switch. Since it's web-based, it also means that you can access your information from any computer. You don't have to worry about compatibility issues!

Laptop powered by PLDT CheckOut

Powered by PLDT OpenForm

PLDT smenation

PLDT Check Out

Having problems with your current Point of Sale system?

Simplify with PLDT CheckOut.

Now, you can improve the way you make a profit with the PLDT CheckOut Web-Based Point of Sale System.

A cost-effective and reliable PLDT hosted POS system. Keep track of your sales, inventories, purchase orders, work orders and more in all your branches, in real time. Get a business partner that you can trust with PLDT CheckOut Web-Based Point of Sale System.

Features:

- Gives you off-site access to stores from anywhere and at anytime
- Provides real-time analytics and information
- Virtually zero downtime, guaranteed
- Secures your data storage
- User-friendly interface
- Is more accurate compared to the traditional/manual methods
- Works on any web browser on any operating system

Monthly Service Fee	One Time Charge
P2,750	P500

Call 101-888
or visit www.pldtsme-nation.com.ph

PLDT smenation

ENTERTAINMENT

Celso Ermin G. Velarde

Glamorous actress recounts violence at home

ERIC MOTHER was a battered wife, confesses acclaimed actress and TV host Angel Aquino. She anchors "Kwan," a six-part series of short films about human rights airing next month on ABC, the ABS-CBN News Channel.

"Kwan"—which takes its title from the 13 directors (Dale Marti, Carlitos Siguion-Reyna and Pedo Nitalana, among them) who took part in the project—also features a promotional teaser in which Aquino portrays glamorous mid-parent that after taking her clothes off piece by piece, she reveals a battered woman with bruises all over her body.

In an interview done by the network for the teaser, Aquino says she feels deeply for victims of human rights violations because she personally experienced it at home while growing up.

She revealed: "My nanay would make all the decisions at ang hindi siya nasunod, madali siyang masaktan ang tatay ko. Akala namin nang tatay parusa talaga."

(Log on to www.facebook.com/celsoemin.velarde or follow Twitter @kbmanila.)

Best Deal In Makati !!!

ROOMS for as low as P2,900+ on single/double occupancy (500+)

+ Full Buffet Breakfast + Use of Resthaven Pool & Gym
+ Free WiFi and City Calls

City Garden Hotel

Please call Tel. No.: 899-1111

Sayonara, Stefano–but he says he never wanted to win

THE fight out for dreamboat William Lungerou—much to the dismay of female viewers who comprise a good chunk of "American Idol" viewers.

Hollaio, whose fellow finalists dubbed as the Gentle's resident flirt and whom the judges celebrated for his "swagger," was booted out last week.

Quite tellingly, fans for the #boot (#TW), the rank "Idol" website, had tightly predicted "Stefano's number is up."

A day before elimination, a SETN newsroom brought out the knives for the routine showstop—with lesbian musicmaster. All seven were rounded up circulated for "butchering songs" from the 21st century.

▲Bobby Wellbeery ("Swingin'"): "Not at all enthusiastic ... doing his wonky story, odd microphone grip and bedazzled vocals. Whoever is advising him is an idiot."

▲James Durbin ("Spinning"): "Is re-convincing as a disturbo rocker. But when he starts screeching the chorus ... truly awful."

▲Ricky Natchez ("Pulling in the Rear"): "She just sounds there and sings like she's glued to one spot ..."

▲Jacob Lusk ("Dance With My Father"): "Boring."

▲Casey Abrams ("Shakin' in Reverbs"): "Off key wailing, scraping across the stage ... then he gets in the face of the judges just because he looks like it."

▲Stefano Langone ("Closer"): "Starts bumping the ass ... guesses several rings and tries to be sexy. Re-dressing to Studio A-Saturday ..."

▲Lauren Alaina ("Born to Fly"): "She didn't even try to entertain ..."

Not really

Meanwhile, the 22-year-old Stefano told journalists on Friday that he had deliberately kept mum[1] but [illegible] and piano skills from the 25 million strong audience on the most-watched TV show in the United States. "I never really wanted [to win]. It was [Lee's or] their best in the form of this music industry," he said.

"It is hard to really show your chops on the show ... One thing I really wanted to sow and keep close to myself was my original music and my piano playing. That is something I tried to share to the world [in this last week]," he added.

Will we [illegible] in what he called "lucky 7th" place on the show after finding himself in the bottom three on three occasions. He had been a judge's wild card choice for the top 13.

The shallmet, hook-faced singer said he wanted to begin a career that combined the country style of Steve Brooks and Trevor Moss, along with collaborations with rap artists. "I am going in a different direction than any other American Idol really has," Stefano said. "There is a smoky, open, cool and modest out there now and I am ready to present to it. When I am off the show, I am really going to show the world what kind of impact I can make," he pointed out, saying he was "completely at peace" with his early exit. With a report from Reuters

SM SAINT LUCIA
TEL: 8 (758) 452-3333 (758) 481-3402
www.smsaintlucia.com
3D SILVER SCREEN DIGITAL SURROUND EX
CINEMA 1 CINEMA 2 CINEMA 3
CAPTAIN PHIL - PG IN LOVE | MISS PEREGRINE'S LIGHT FATHER, LIKE SON | MISS
TOMORROW IT BEGINS | PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG | PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG
CINEMA 4 PG-13 CINEMA 5 CINEMA 6
ARTHUR | BEASTLY | DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2
GNOMEO & JULIET 3D
SHOWTIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

SHANG CINEPLEX
1. DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 PG 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
2. RIO (3D) PG 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00
3. BEASTLY PG-13 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
4. ARTHUR PG-13 1:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30
5. PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
PASSENGERS to WORLEN (May 8)
Tickets NOW AVAILABLE
Call 459-3227 for more details
Shangri-La Plaza

POWER PLANT CINEMA
RED HILL CENTER, ORTIGAS TEL: 356-4444
ARTHUR | PG13 | 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
RIO - 3D | PG | 1:00, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:30
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2: RODRICK RULES - DP | PG | 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:30
PRICES & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

Ayala Malls Circuit

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4
1: RIO (3D) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:40, 9:55 AM
2: BEASTLY 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 AM
3: ARTHUR 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30 AM
4: RIO MCMANUS, LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15 AM
5: SOURCE CODE 1:00, 3:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30 AM
6: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 AM
7: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 11:00, 1:30, 3:45, 5:50, 8:00, 10:15 AM

GREENBELT 2
1: ARTHUR 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 AM
2: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 3:15, 5:30, 6:30, 9:15 AM

GREENBELT 3
1: BEASTLY 12:30, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:15, 11:00 AM
2: ARTHUR 1:00, 3:00, 5:15, 7:15, 9:30, 11:00 AM
3: LIMITLESS 1:00, 3:00, 5:15, 8:30, 10:30 AM
4: RIO (3D) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 10:30 AM
5: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 1:30, 3:45, 6:00, 7:45, 11:15 AM

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
1: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45 AM
2: ARTHUR 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45 AM
3: RIO (3D) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45 AM
4: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45 AM
5: BEASTLY 2:15, 4:30, 6:30, 8:45, 11:00 AM

AYALA CENTER CEBU
1: ARTHUR 3:00, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45 AM
2: BEASTLY 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:45 AM
3: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45 AM
4: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 3:45, 6:15, 7:15, 9:45 AM

MARQUEE
1: BEASTLY 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 9:00 AM
2: HOP (3D) 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 9:00 AM
3: HALL PASS 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:30, 11:45 AM
4: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 9:30, 11:45 AM

MARKET! MARKET!
1: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 11:30, 1:45, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15 AM
2: ARTHUR 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45 AM
3: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15 AM
4: TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
5: TEMPORARILY CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
6: BEASTLY 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45, 11:45 AM
7: RESERVED

TRINOMA
1: BEASTLY 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30 AM
2: SOURCE CODE 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 AM
3: RIO MCMANUS, LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON 12:45, 3:00, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 AM
4: RIO (3D) 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00 AM
5: ARTHUR 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30 AM
6: DIARY OF A WIMPY KID 2 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00 AM
7: PIRATES PIRATES MY DR. WRONG 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:30 AM

For ticket reservations or purchases, text SureSeats to 2910 (for Globe and Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com
Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification, please call 729-7777.
*Please inform cashier at all SureSeats users. Purchases upon the 48 Free cardholders only.

MOVIE SPECIAL

LIVE VIA SATELLITE
from MGM GRAND GARDEN ARENA, LAS VEGAS
May 8, 2011 (Sunday) • 9:00 a.m. (Manila Time)
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT for GREENBELT 1
ALABANG TOWN CENTER • MARKET! MARKET! • TRINOMA
MARQUEE • AYALA CENTER CEBU
BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW!

MALL EVENTS

GLORIETTA
Ongoing
April 28-30, Activity Corridor

GREENBELT
Ongoing
Activity Corridor

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
Ongoing
Activity Corridor

BONIFACIO HIGH STREET
Ongoing
Activity Corridor

MARKET! MARKET!
Ongoing
Activity Corridor

AYALA CENTER CEBU
Ongoing
Activity Corridor

TRINOMA
Ongoing
April 27-28
Activity Corridor

MARQUEE
Ongoing
April 30 & May 1
Activity Corridor

GREENBELT
Now accepting bookings
Mid-May to July 2011
For bookings & inquiries, please call
856-7631 or 811-6000

MALL SPECIAL

It's always U-first at Ayala Malls.

Just be our Concierge (short for unlimited source of customer service).

glorietta | Greenbelt | Alabang Town Center | Ayala Center Cebu | Market! Market! | Bonifacio High Street | TriNoma | MARQUEE

Visit www.ayalamalls.com.ph or text AYALA MALLS to 2948

Happy with boys

ANGEL LOCSIN

Angel's A-okay with the men in her life—on and off the set

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

ANGEL Locsin declared oh-so-boldly on national television that she's "happy" with the way things are between her and (U) British movie player Phil Younghusband.

Manager Ethel Ramos pointed out that Angel's so busy with work, she doubts if she and Jean Bale have time to meet often with the star-to-be in bed.

It's all about time management, it seems. Angel is having a blast, too, with the cub.

THIS MOVIE IS NOT YET RATED BY THE MTRCB
OPENS MAY 4
New decade. New rules.
SCRE4M
DAVID ARQUETTE · NEVE CAMPBELL · COURTENEY COX · EMMA ROBERTS · HAYDEN PANETTIERE

Big kid

"Naiya-iya is like a big kid," Angel hinted. "He's always excited to be on the set. [But] he's smart and studies scenes. I can also opt out in him. ... when it's [have] problems. He's cool and always calm. Even though we are all panicking, he remains relaxed."

They recently got to bond when they shot some key scenes in Japan.

"It was very cliffside, to be honest. We had only about two hours of sleep a day and we were there for six days," Angel exhaled. "Naiya-iya said he wasn't used to that kind of schedule, but he caught up."

They're both glad that they visited Japan before the country's triple disaster. "We managed to shoot beautiful scenes and visit our Ashokayan there," Angel revealed.

Best actor

She had to study different types of ballroom dances to play her film role, the actress said.

For the small screen, she's urging herself with "Imortal" partner John Lloyd as well. "I wanted to bring to do a project with John Lloyd," she said enticed. "I can say he's the best actor of our generation."

She has learned a lot with John Lloyd, she said. "Professionalism, patience, perseverance and dedication."

("In the Name of Love" opens in theaters nationwide on May 11.)

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
For ticket reservations and screening schedule pls. visit: www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
Like us on facebook
Follow us on twitter
GALLERIA
MANILA
METRO EAST
NOVALICHES
FORUM ROBINSONS
ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD
Another 3D Cinema
Galleria and Manila
NOW OPEN
STA. ROSA
LIPA
DASMARIÑAS
STAMARIA
IMUS
ANGELES
TACLOBAN
DUMAGUETE
BACOLOD
ILOILO
GENSAN
ILOCOS NORTE

reel REWARD
Promo Duration: April 1 to May 15, 2011
Deadline of submission of entries: May 15, 2011
Raffle Draw: May 16, 2011
Get a chance to win a Plasma TV, camcorder or mobile phone for a minimum single purchase of two (2) movie tickets at Robinsons Movieworld Ermita
MOVIEWORLD

Regents Theaters · Gateway · Ayala · Greenbelt · Glorietta · Fairview Terraces · Trinoma · Cinema Cabanatuan · Ayala Complex
3D
PLATINUM CINEMA
EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE
3D
PACQUIAO MOSLEY

DID YOU KNOW...

3D porn film beats Avatar in Hong Kong

A HIDDEN Kong movie billed as the world's first 3D porn film has broken the city's first-day box office record previously set by Hollywood bloodbuster Avatar.

"3-D Sex and Zen: Extreme Ecstasy" notched up HK$2.8 million (US$360,000) on its first day last week, outpacing director James Cameron's science fiction epic which drew HK$2.6 million, the porn movie's publicist said Thursday. AFP

MEET & GREET
PBA ATIN 'TO!
Memorabilia Exhibit
April 30, 4pm
Level 3 Sports Loop
Robinsons Galleria
MALL EVENTS
FABER-CASTELL
FREE Art Workshop
April 30 - May 1, 10am
Robinsons Place Ermita

SONY BRAVIA
first tv. then internet. now Sony
Sony Internet TV
television redefined

'Jazz Nights' at Manila Hotel

THE MANILA Hotel brings back its "Jazz Nights" at the Top Room with nightly dance-inducing tunes (now featuring pianist Sonny Posadas and singer Cooky Chua. The rest of the schedule is as follows: Fridays, Juan For Rides; Saturdays, The Jazz Notes; Mondays, Sonny Posadas with Fiance Jessie Tapay; Tuesdays, Sonny Posadas with Sandy's Lini-Vinic; and Wednesdays, Sonny Posadas with Lorie San Diego. All shows start at 9 p.m. till midnight. The Top Room is at the ground floor of the Manila hotel.
Call 527-0011.

ROBBY Peralta (L) and Cooky Chua

ANG BAGONG 4 O'CLOCK HABIT

The family that watches together, stays happy together

Ogie at Rizal Park

The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) opens its National Heritage Month with a show on May 1 at the Rizal Park featuring Ogie Alcasid singing hoolibao classics. Also performing are the Magpie Dance Group from Baguio, Orong Akuhot and Ensemble, Lionel Estacio, Banda Rosario, Batangan Stilt Dance, among others. Call 527-1525.

'Dance Xchange'

The culminating event of another NCCA program, "Dance Xchange 2011: The Philippine International Dance Festival," happens tomorrow until April 29 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong.

'Album Fiesta' contest

Bidders for the "Album Fiesta Photo Competition" are still being accepted. Photos must have been taken during the grand parade on April 15, and should not have been published in any book or photography magazine. Each prize wins P50,000. Submit entries to the Art Desk office, both in SLCD Complex. Entry can be before April 29. Log on to philcultcen.wordpress.com.

JUSTIN Bieber

OGIE Alcasid performs on May 1 at the Rizal Park.

May 10
Justin Bieber, third of four open grounds, Pinoy
Mall, Big Araneta Coliseum. Call 911-5555.

May 22
Kinny Loggins, SMX Convention Center

May 27
Maroon 5, SMX Convention Center

July 7
Marilyn Manson and Billy Idol at...
Araneta Coliseum.

July 28
Iron Maiden, Araneta Coliseum

BOCK band Mr. Big plays on May 10 at the Araneta Coliseum.

ENTERTAINMENT

No truth to rumors linking her to Chiz, says Pops

POPS FERNANDEZ laughs off rumors linking her to Sen. Chiz Escudero. Tell her it that they were spotted together at The Fort.

In a previous column, I wrote that Chiz and his wife Christine have parted ways, though it could only be a phase they're going through.

"That's so weird! I don't even know Chiz personally," Pops clarified. "It must be a case of mistaken identity."

So, the Chiz link is nothing more than rumor!

Bonding moments

I enjoyed bonding with Bong Revilla, Lani Mercado, their family and Sen. Jinggoy and Precy Estrada at Discovery Shores Boracay last Monday. It's been their tradition to spend Holy Week on the paradise island.

"Pang-all star," said Bong in jest. "Enjoy kaming-ang ito kasi sa mayo at mag-pulong na nga kaming."

I joined the fab couples' Easter egg hunting. Lani was pregnant with Jolo when they last visited Boracay. Nakakatuwa nga eh, kasama nila ngayon si Jolo," I said.

Lani smiled and said: "Oo nga no. Ang bilis lang nung panahon."

What could be sweeter than their renewing their vows on their 25th anniversary in May?

On their silver year, Lani deserves a gold medal for being such a supportive wife.

I remember the time when rumors were afloat that Lani might sue me for writing about Bong's love child, Luigi, with my friend Lovely. I salute Lani for loving Bong enough to accept what may be unacceptable in most wives.

Proud mama

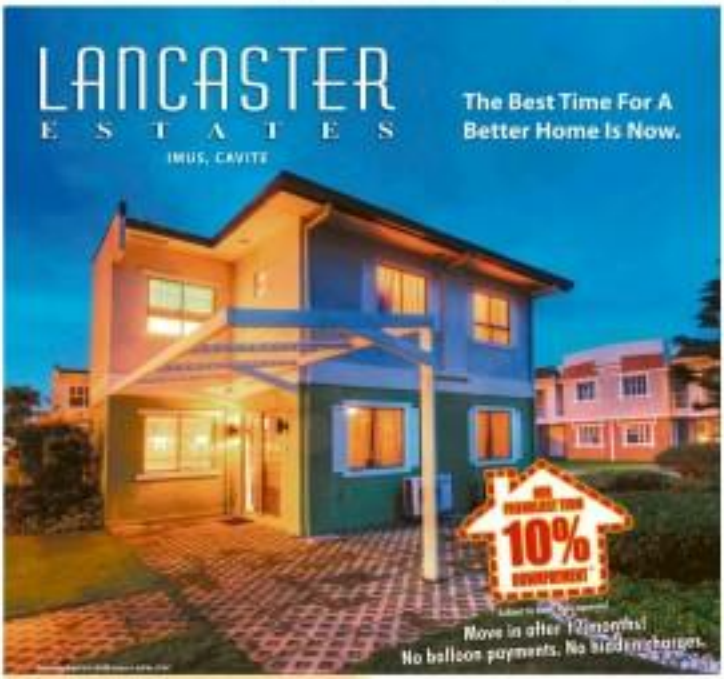
It was also an endearing moment to see how Bong and Lani watch over their grandkids, Gab (Jolo's love child with Onanay) daughter Grace) and Mica (Jiro born of their daughter Yuna and Vince del Rosario).

Gab is so Jolo and mesmerizing. When I asked if he wanted to join show biz, his eyes lit up and said, "Yup, when I'm 21." Then Lani told him, "You have to finish your studies first." Gab also took "Bubot's daddy Jolo to long trip of life to!"

Like every proud mama, Lani enjoys talking about her six kids. "Bryan is so attentive. Sinubukan niya talaga ang basketball. Jolo is the athletic type. Si Jiro DOM ito sa love (laughs). Iyak is laughs. Gianna is pulahin and wants to join show biz. Ayo ang arte kay Bong. Mas nagagalit pa yun kapag si ako ang may gift na mahi-chorus sa dad niya. Landslide is super shy and Bata is true to his title. Iyon din ang dapat sa kanya."

While enjoying our respites by the beach, Bong cajoled Lani into jamming with the acoustic performers. She gamely sang their theme song, "Bata."

BONG Revilla with daughter Gianna



A bigger home means a better life and there's no better time to own your dreams than now.

PROFRIENDS, a trusted developer of quality communities, makes your dreams come true with Lancaster Estates.

Lancaster Estates features a Linear Park right in your own backyard where your children can play. Amenities include a clubhouse and swimming pool so your family can enjoy a day together right in your own community. It provides 24-hour security so that you can rest safe and secure in the comforts of your new home.

Just five minutes away from the new Coastal Road Extension exit, Lancaster Estates is a short ride to the nearest mall, allowing you and your loved ones easy access to entertainment areas and to your workplace.

Avail of easy to own bank financing plans that offer affordable and flexible payments with an early move in scheme allowing you to begin your new life without delay.

Lancaster Estates
The best time for a better home is now.

If you see an offer that seems better, call (02) 491-7700 or visit www.profriends.com for the real deal!

Like us on facebook.com/profriends.ask

PRO•FRIENDS

visit www.smcinema.com

SM CINEMA

EVENT

Watch it in HD

HIGH DEFINITION

and witness the ultimate fight experience!

Available in SM CINEMA

PACQUIAO MOSLEY

LIVE AT SM CINEMAS NATIONWIDE

SM CINEMA

IMAX

metro manila

luzon

visayas • mindanao

VISIT WWW.SMCINEMA.COM FOR PROMOS AND TICKET ONLINE.

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ARE ACCEPTED.

OVER 5 MILLION HAPPY FOOD MEALS SERVED AT ALL SM CINEMA LOBBIES

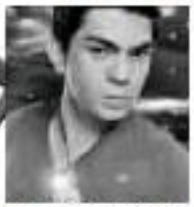
'Charita

Pinoy

No truth to rumors

able' TV host is really quite a grouch

ASHLEY and Alodia Gosiengfiao



MICHELLE Madrigal (left) and Jolo Revilla

Manchester in flames

Manchester Arce is purportedly the love rascal of Centerstage star Kim. Or should be sorry.

Seems the search for the budding affair was made by Kim's boyfriend Fernandito, who may be severely mad at Ch. 31, 23, 27, 2, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 25, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107,

Tara na at ... Pinoy ka! mall...

CHERRYMOBILE FESTIVAL

MAG KENTENG, MAG PENGENTA, MAG PIESTANG PIESTA...

From APRIL 19 to MAY 1, 2011 ONLY

Z5

WORLD'S SLIMMEST QWERTY

P2,699

Buti Langis!

SAVE P1,000 at the Booth

DUAL SIM

2.0 MP CAMERA
DUAL SIM / DUAL STANDBY
MULTIMEDIA PLAYER
FM RADIO WITH RECORDING
MMS / WAP / GPRS
JAVA / BUILT IN GAMES
BLUETOOTH
MICRO SD UP TO 8GB

Z9

Plastic-SLIM na Dual Sim Phone!

P2,699

Buti Langis!

SAVE P1,000 at the Booth

DUAL SIM

ULTRA SLIM
2.0 MP CAMERA
DUAL SIM / DUAL STANDBY
DATA SECURITY
MULTIMEDIA PLAYER
FM RADIO
MMS / WAP / GPRS
JAVA / BUILT IN GAMES
BLUETOOTH
MICRO SD UP TO 8GB

AVAILABLE IN ALL CHERRY MOBILE EXHIBITS, CONCEPT STORES / KIOSKS NATIONWIDE.

Top screen icons remembered

THE RECENT demise of screen icon and legendary beauty Elizabeth Taylor has prompted us to recall how other screen greats were mourned by their fans when they passed away. Instinctively, the stars most deeply missed and fervently remembered were decades after their deaths have reached to be luminaries who died relatively young, or under numerous circumstances.

Viewfinder

Nestor U. Torre

When Rudolf Valentino died in the 1920s, his many fans were so shocked and anguished that a few of them even committed suicide, as they could be with their idol "for eternity." For many years after his death, other fans would continue to place flowers and light candles on his grave.

The most untimely death of James Dean was fatally incurred, because he died in a car crash when he was only in his 20s, and after acting in just three or four films. But his talent was so exceptional and incendiary that, despite their exceedingly meager output, he continues to be regarded as one of Hollywood's most enchanting (benign) icons.

Intense, too, was the grief expressed when Marilyn Monroe passed away to a still controversial case of death due to drug overdose. She was the silver screen's most celebrated sexpot...but that didn't explain why she was so popular.

Despite appearances how she had struggled to successfully transform herself from just a sex kitten into an outstanding actress, who could hold her own in scenes with the best in the business.

Her last part, Grace Kelly was famous for her cool blonde beauty and sophisticated roles, but her greatest claim to fame was her having become screen-blue princess when she married Prince Rainier of Monaco.

Like Dean, Princess Grace died in an automobile accident decades ago, but her tragic

JAMES Dean

MARILYN Monroe

HEATH Ledger

MICHAEL Jackson

untimeliness to be ratified by people from all over the world when their times take them to the Principality of Monaco.

In the field of rock music, many famous singers have passed away, but Elvis Presley's death is still the most intensely mourned by his fans, who even hold an annual event at his Graceland mansion to pay tribute to him.

Much more recently, Michael Jackson's sure demise shocked the world, resulting in a posthumous resurgence in his popularity and album and movie sales.

Many fans cited the fact that he still had many great songs and performances in him, and chose to focus on his talent and achievements, instead of on the many controversies that hounded him for much of his adult life.

Heath Ledger was not as big a star as Jackson and Presley, but his near untimely death a few years ago also shocked movie fans because his talent was, he died at the peak of his career.

Elizabeth Taylor's recent death was significantly different from many of these stellar departures because she had lived a full life and done more than her share to grace the world with her finest performances, her humanitarian advocacies, and her great beauty and feisty personality. Like other "deathless" stars cited here, she sure belongs in the cinematic ages.

WITH HD HOT DEALS
IT'S HIGH TIME YOU GO HIGHER!

FREE*+

FREE HD Kit for Plans 990* & 1290

+ INSTALLATION

FREE installation worth P1000

The HD Kit for Plan 590 is now only P4,500 from P5,490—save almost P2,000!

Cignal

Watch it on HD!
Sunday • May 8, 2011 • 9:00 a.m.

HP delivers breakthrough mobile printing

GADGETS GALLERY

HP recommends Windows® 7.

Your PC, simplified.

Windows 7

CLICK SAVE AND GO.

For every purchase of an HP Pavilion p6655d Desktop PC get (1) FREE WIRELESS ROUTER.

FREE!

hp Everybody On

HP Pavilion p6655d Desktop PC

SRP P37,990

The power of graphics goes beyond the PC

MOTOROLA Xoom

Big demand for graphics-rich UIs including full HD and 3D and high performance computing has provided the opportunity for NVIDIA to target smartphones, slates and supercomputers

By Raquel P. Gomez

Consumer digital devices such as notebooks, tablets and smart phones are now offering user interfaces peppered with rich graphics and details and even 3D.

There is a growing demand for rich user interfaces for multimedia, web, and entertainment applications, which is a sure sign that the graphics industry is thriving and will be powering more connected appliances in the near future, according to Jeff Six, senior marketing manager, Asia Pacific Region for NVIDIA.

US-based tech firm NVIDIA is a leader in visual computing technologies and the inventor of the GPU (graphics processing unit) that enables the rendering of high-definition graphics on a computing device.

Recently NVIDIA officials have showcased the power and might of the graphics hardware that can cater for future powering small devices such as smart phones and tablets to supercomputers used in science, medicine, finance and manufacturing.

According to climate Sim, NVIDIA's dual-solution architecture, NVIDIA's high-end brand of GPU intended for high performance computing market called Tesla GPU is now a major component of supercomputers (data centers that run the high performance computing) found in China like the Tianhe-1A, Nebulae, and Tsubame 2.0, which feature hybrid design incorporating both CPU and GPU components.

Applications for Tesla GPU, which is capable of massive data as per parallel computing, include those used in education to search applications bioinformatics molecular dynamics, unsafe or climate modelling to government (satellite imaging, video analytics, signal processing) life sciences (bio chemistry, genomics), finance (risk analysis, insurance modelling), and manufacturing (computational fluid dynamics, electromagnetics).

Six added the future of high-performance computing is the combination of CPU and GPU as data centers leveraging the hybrid design are more power-efficient and run efficient.

NVIDIA has also started to intrude the mobile computing space with its Tegra 2 dual-core mobile GPU, which currently powers LG Optimus 2X smart phone, Motorola Xoom tablet and Asus' 4G, and best known tablet.

Tegra is a system-on-chip (SOC) integrating CPU and GPU into a single package and developed to power smart phones and mobile internet devices (MIDs).

Tegra-powered devices are capable of playing full 1080p HD video and when connected to a external display such as a the panel LED TV via HDMI port, the full HD-video don't diminish in quality. Whatever is on the display of a Tegra 2 smartphone, like the LG Optimus 2x, will be mirrored exactly on the big screen.

In addition, since the Tegra GPU features multiple threads, it is more capable of multitasking, boot faster, and high-resolution demands such as games plus support for Flash and HTML5, the graphics engines of the web, according to Six.

NVIDIA also introduced the GeForce 500M series early this year, technology for notebooks. NVIDIA Optimus would allow the notebooks to run DirectX 11 requirements and ensure long battery life, said Yee.

Yee said the Optimus technology automatically detects the notebook's tasks and provides the graphics power when the notebook needs it (for example when one is playing games), but totally shuts down when the notebook isn't doing any graphics-hungry task.

NVIDIA also announced the availability of its new series of GeForce GPUs for desktops: GTX 590, GTX 580/570, and GT 520 which are best in class DirectX 11 performance. The new graphics cards, including the entry level products GTX 520/510, already provide incredible gaming experience with 3D Vision, Surround, PhysX, and SLI.

GeForce graphics card

Tech Trends

Samsung DV150 with Wi-Fi

Samsung NX11

Samsung whets consumers' appetite with new products

Samsung BD-D7100

Samsung recently unveiled its portfolio of 2011 consumer electronics highlighted by new smart TVs and consumer-inspired, easy-to-use cameras at the 2011 Samsung SA Roadshow held at the Grand Ballroom of the Crimson Plaza Hotel.

"With the event, Samsung Electronics Philippines Corporation (SEPCO) has definitely set an exciting course for continued growth in the Philippines.

A team of Samsung executives led by SEPCO President SC Park showcased Samsung's 2011 product line-up, which includes new products from the digital imaging and audio-visual divisions.

Samsung focuses on three critical emerging areas as areas of growth for the company to build on its 2011 success.

Samsung also reaffirmed its commitment to deliver truly functional innovations in terms of innovative new product features and new generation lifestyles.

Samsung takes home entertainment to the next edge

For 2011, Samsung has re-imagined the TV screen by making the bezel, which now "melts" seamlessly framed the TV, virtually disappears.

Samsung's new ultra-narrow bezel design has influenced its flagship LED television for 2011 - the Samsung D8000 and D7000 LED TV line-ups. Both offer a bezel that is just 0.2 inches wide, providing more screen to enjoy than ever before.

The Samsung D400 Plasma Series showcases Samsung's breakthrough Series 4 + 1 design which features a new narrow bezel design to consumers get an extra inch of viewable screen size for a greater viewing area without increasing the outside dimensions of the set.

Along with the unveiling of its newest TV innovations, Samsung also announced the latest in its lineup of Blu-ray players. Among these is the BD-7500 the world's thinnest 3D Blu-ray player that has the innovative 3D accessory that enables consumers to enjoy 3D experience with pictures, movies and streaming video.

Digital Imaging: New Experience and ease of use with connection

To help consumers stay easily connected to the world, Samsung unveiled its newest digital cameras and camcorder offerings. The SH100 allows photos to be posted straight to Facebook or Buffalo to email, and the uncommonly built-up photos on PC.

This is also the first camera that consumers love to use Android smart phone, so it can use the phone to view the shot about to be taken in real time. A smart phone can also be used to view GPS information about where each photo was taken.

Building on the popularity of the NX11, Samsung unveiled a number of new lenses. The NX11 will soon complete with an 18-55 mm i-Function lens, as well as two new i-Function lenses, a 20mm pancake and a 30-80mm zoom silver-color lens.

Samsung HMX-Q100

Samsung D8000 has "Social TV"

INTERNET LED TVs with all-in-one screen bezels

5 latest innnovations from Asus

MOTHERBOARD maker and world's top 3 consumer notebook vendor Asus has announced its top-of-the-line Sandy Bridge products, which includes the highly anticipated Asus N series NA502., a high performance multimedia notebook, and the ROG G51J 3D gaming notebook.

Asus also introduced the most affordable Eee PC 1015PN with Asus S.I.I.E. Technology as well as the soul the most awaited product Asus Eee Slate and Sabermooth P67, a military-grade motherboard with Thermal Armor.

All the new Asus products are the best of its class and suited for consumers' various needs and interests.

Eee Slate

N42

G51JM

EPC

If you are a movie-oh-maniac or particular with everything about sound and notebook performance, the N Series N42SL will not disappoint.

It is powered by Intel Core i5 Sandy Bridge Processors, has the laptop's most interesting feature is the Asus SonicMaster and Dolby Home Theater V3 sound enhancements.

It is powered by Intel Core i5 Sandy Bridge Processors, has the laptop's most interesting feature is the Asus SonicMaster and Dolby Home Theater V3 sound enhancements.

Another new feature is the Asus SonicMaster technology. This new feature provides the sound power and quality that can already satisfy the demands of sound enthusiasts.

With glossy finish and elegant seashell inspired design, the first PC 1015PN is the embodiment of mobility in style.

The first PC 1015PN is not your typical netbook as it offers large storage capacity and the intuitive Super Hybrid Engine (SHE) technology, which prolongs battery life and reduces power usage by up to 10%. Now you have much more time to surf the net without plugging your notebook for power.

Gaming notebook ROG (Republic of Gamers) G51J 3D redefines the gaming experience with its 3D technology. The popular G51 series has been updated with the recent release of Intel's 2nd generation Core i7 to make it even faster.

With performance-rivaling that of a desktop computer, G51JM is capable of small and big tasks from office applications to video encoding and gaming. This powerful machine is built and designed for the mobile connected with an elite ego, one who wants hard and plays harder.

The Asus Sabertooth P67 motherboard, which belongs in the TUF series, offers more flexibility as well as improved power efficiency through power control and supply precision features.

High temperatures remain the leading cause of hardware breakdown and performance reduction. The TUF Sabermesh P67 counters this problem with several new innovative technologies, which include the Thermal Armor and Thermal Radar, which make the laptop efficiently cooler and longer lives.

The most awaited product ASUS Eee Slate EP121 packs a punch. It is a powerful tablet device powered by an Intel Core i5 processor, which takes productivity to a whole new level. It has the power to run Office applications and Photoshop as well.

SRPs: Asus N42SL, P39.995; IntelPC 1015PN, P13,500; ROG G51 3D, P134,995; Sabermesh P67, P12,990, Eee Slate EP121, P999 (available in July).

SABERTOOTH P67

TOSHIBA has recently unveiled new notebooks that feature Intel's second generation Core i processors.

Leading the pack is the new Satellite E300, a thin and light notebook that features a chiseled copper-colored aluminum chassis, LED backlit keyboard, and an all-new touch pad design.

This 2.2 kg marvel, which is powered by second generation Intel Core i5 processor, already features WiDi (Intel wireless display) technology, which makes the screen content of the laptop be beamed wirelessly to an HDTV or the inside of the house.

"Now, 'wireless' doesn't just mean Internet access. Our consumers are looking for notebooks that give them more wireless freedom with high-end features in white and light, stylish packages," said Wong Wei Shing, Senior Manager of Product Marketing, Toshiba Singapore Pte Ltd, Computer Systems Division.

"We've ensured a notebook

THE E300 features WiDi

Toshiba's new laptops feature SandyBridge processors and WiDi

L750

with advanced technology so consumers can experience a new world of seamlessly media enjoyment with friends and family on their HDTVs," said Shing, referring to the Satellite E300's ability to beam videos and photos wirelessly to a HDTV.

Apart from WiDi 3.0, the Satellite E300 also has a bright 14-inch diagonal widescreen LED-backlit display (available WXGA+ (1600 x 900) resolution), 4GB of DDR3 RAM, Wireless-N (Wi-Fi) with Bluetooth 3.0, and an HDMI port.

Toshiba's new 13" series PORTÉGÉ R830 ultra-portable notebook comes in color variations: Metallic Black, Blue and Red.

"The new PORTÉGÉ R830 series offers an expanded level of innovative technologies, the latest connectivity tools, high quality, durability and performance configuration and a remarkable price performance ratio," said Shing.

For the PORTÉGÉ R830 series, Toshiba made use of various innovative technologies focusing on two areas: smart and efficient cooling solutions and chassis construction.

The "Airflow Cooling" system, co-developed by Intel® and Toshiba, in the R830 allows Toshiba to generate the latest Intel Core family processors even in the device's slim-casing while keeping the fan noise to a minimum. An ingeniously designed ventilation duct in combination with a cleverly arranged system board layout optimizes heat exchange.

The PORTÉGÉ R830 series weighs only 1.49 kg, but its slim and lightweight design doesn't compromise on durability. The notebook features highly resistant magnesium alloy casing and honeycomb structure that is deployed in some areas.

To enhance customer usability and enable quicker boot up time on the notebook, the new PORTÉGÉ R830 comes integrated with Toshiba's new and unique "InstantOpen - Starts On" function, which allows users to boot up the notebook simply by flipping up the display panel when it is shut down or in sleep or hibernate mode.

The all-new Satellite L700 Series offers a choice in screen size choices, color options and more configurations featuring powerful Intel 2nd generation Core processors.

"We're giving consumer the broadest choice ever of value notebook computers to meet their computing needs and budget," said Shing, "There is no longer any reason for consumers to have to compromise getting powerful performance or style when purchasing an affordable notebook."

The Satellite L750 lineup consists of three elite options: the lightweight Satellite L750 series with a 15.5-inch diagonal display and the Satellite L740 series desktop replacement with a 15.6-inch diagonal display.

Each notebook is equipped with the latest processors and standard LED-backlit HD (True Xpo) widescreen displays, built-in Webcams, DVD-rewritable drives, fast Wireless-N connectivity with Bluetooth 2.0+EDR/3.0+HS, up to 4GB of fast DDR3 memory and hard drives of up to 640GB.

E300

Second generation Intel Core i boasts of both processing and graphics power

By Raquel P. Gomez

EXPECT the drop in prices of notebooks and netbooks that feature Intel's first generation of Core i series of processors as the plant shop makes from San Jose, California has already announced the availability of its second generation Core i series in new notebooks and desktops.

The capability of new processors is a significant leap from previous Core i3 as they now feature graphics power (GPU) that works alongside the processor (CPU) within the chip.

Described as having the first "visibly smart intelligent series," the second generation Intel Core processor family successfully combined visual and 3-D graphics technology with performance-leading microprocessor on a single chip, according to Navin Shenoy, vice president and AMC general manager, Intel.

At 32-nm in size, the second generation Core i series (codenamed Sandybridge) have advanced functionality and have dramatically increased Intel HD graphics that enables significant graphics performance for both HD media processing and mainstream gaming.

Shenoy said the new Intel processor graphics technology will focus on areas where people are computing today, such as HD videos, photos, music streams gaming, multi-tasking and online socializing and multimedia.

"Filipinos today create, consume and collaborate just voraciously. The second generation Intel Core family of processors aims to fill an unspent need for visually stunning performance while keeping energy consumption at an all-time low," said Nicky Barsang, country manager, Intel Microelectronics Philippines Inc.

Some features of the new Intel Core i family include Quick Sync Video and Intel Wireless Display (WiDi).

Intel WiDi 2.0 allows for the content in your PC or notebook (live tasteple movies and videos) to be streamed wirelessly to a big screen HDTV. This technology already supports 1080p (full HD) and it can already stream protected content either streamed from the internet or played locally from a Blu-ray or DVD player.

The Intel Quick Sync Video is a built-in hardware accelerator technology that speeds up the editing and sharing of videos. With this feature, a 4-minute HD video that used to take four minutes to be converted to an iPad accepted format would now take just 14 seconds.

The new chips now also incorporated the enhanced Intel Turbo Boost Technology 2.0, a feature that automatically realocates processor core and processor graphics resources to accelerate performance, giving users immediate performance boost when and where it is needed.

CPU and GPU in one

Intel's microprocessor roadmap

Dell Vostro V130 gets Core i5 power

VOSTRO is Dell's affordable brand of PCs and notebooks targeting entrepreneurs. Of late, the Vostro laptops have been getting a makeover not only from within but the outside appearance as well.

The new 13.3-inch Dell Vostro V130, which is the successor to the V13 introduced last year, now packs Intel Core i5 processors (1.33 GHz Intel Core i5 U4501, 3 hrs 4GB, 1.33/1600 MHz DDR3, 500 GB storage, TPM-ready, HDMI, USB 2.0 (1 mobile eSATA port), SD card reader, Ethernet, 802.11 b/g/n Wi-Fi, mobile broadband, webcam, and Bluetooth 3.0.

Dell Vostro V130 is a USB (ultra-thin and lightweight) laptop that has taken much of the good looks of the Dell Adamo. Dell's premium and high-priced slim thin laptop.

Thin and light and without the optical disc drive, the V130 has the sleek and stylish aluminum chassis and a lid and interior made of brushed aluminum. The inside however is made of a matte black plastic.

This notebook which weighs only a mere 1.6 pounds can be easily slipped inside a messenger bag and practically not mashed around to carry.

The 11.3-inch screen has a native pixel resolution of 1,366x768 and has a matte coating, which helps protect against glare. As this is a high resolution display text and video looked very crisp.

Yours is the first PC brand designed exclusively for small businesses. As such, emphasis bearing the Vostro name were also to the needs of small to medium business owners.

Vostro products are aimed at helping businesses earn their budget and preserve their data in the products come with dedicated small business services and support.

Vostro notebooks are also backed by a dedicated and specially trained small business sales and support team of experts, which is a key pain point for small businesses that typically have little or no IT support.

ASUS Eee PCs powered by AMD Brazos Platform

ASUS has released the ASUS Eee PC 1215B notebook based on the new AMD Brazos platform.

The new platform features either an E-Series Fusion Accelerated Processing Unit, better known as an APU, ultra-thin-and-light, next-generation, enhanced PC experiences even on small form factor devices while facilitating extended real-world battery life.

They integrate x-CPU and GPU on the same die, improving data transfer rates between these components with the added benefit of low power consumption.

The new platform also incorporates upgraded graphics technology, compatible with the latest in graphics with DirectX 11 support integrated into the chip for superior visuals.

The graphics performance of the new AMD Fusion APUs are also performances not seen before in previous netbooks.

The Eee PC 1215B is a 12 inch netbook featuring the AMD C-50 dual core processor running at 1.0 GHz. The TDP power draw of the processors is 18W making the new Eee PCs more efficient.

The graphics performance offered on the new Brazos platform is comparable to notebooks with a discrete GPU, yet is extremely energy efficient. The Eee PC 1215B integrates an AMD Radeon HD6250 GPU and has support for DirectX 11 for a better gaming and multimedia experience. It also features an HDMI port, enabling full 1080p HD playback to a bigger screen.

ASUS includes Super Hybrid Engine Technology combined with AMD Fusion APUs low power consumption features promises to extend computer usage beyond the normal range of battery life. Lasting up to 6.5 hours, the Eee PC 1215B offers more than enough battery life for users to enjoy all-day computing without the need for frequently recharge the notebook.

The Eee PC 1215B come fully equipped with a multitude of ports and connection methods. It comes with a USB 3.0 port, which support data transfer rates up to ten times faster than USB 2.0, along with Bluetooth 3.0 and 802.11 b/g/n Wi-Fi connectivity which ensures over design for additional privacy.

Eee PC1215B

HP delivers breakthrough mobile printing

From page B1

HP ePrint lets users print while on the go - as easy as sending emails

FORGET over 10 such as Skype, Google Talk or Microsoft Lync is the norm today. It's just a matter of time when printing will also go over the Internet and be enjoyed by the consumers.

HP has seen this trend coming and is the first to announce the availability of printing over IP with its HP ePrint service.

With HP ePrint service, HP sets a new standard for on-the-go printing by allowing mobile and business users to print anywhere and anytime using an email capable device, whether from across the printer, while travelling, or in a coffee shop in another part of the globe.

Letting businesses and individuals stay productive even while on the go, HP ePrint allows users to print directly on an HP printer using a smartphone, notebook, a Blackberry, desktop PC or other mobile devices.

HP ePrint lets SMB users create the crucial connection between business and documents by simply forwarding the file to the email address of the installed or web connected printer, and enjoy stunning print-outs on demand.

Likewise, road warriors and students can both do outstanding conversions and accessibility with instant prints wherever they go, whether printing a photo on the go or documents at school. Maximizing printer access, HP ePrint technology also makes sharing a printer with multiple computers at home or in the office effortless.

Putting a premium on ease of use, HP ePrint is as simple as attaching photos, presentations, business materials or documents to an email message and directing it to available email server setup. Simply press the Wireless button on the HP web connected printer and turn on HP ePrint to activate the service.

HP ePrint ensures secure printing for home or office. HP assigns a random email address on the HP ePrint enabled printer that is available only to individuals you give it to. This allows users to select those who can have direct access to the printer.

For further protection, HP features a password mode option that limits printer access through a user-customizable list of email addresses that can send print jobs to the printer.

HP ePrint is available to network-capable printers like the HP LaserJet Pro M1136dnf Multifunction Printer, HP LaserJet Pro CM1415fn/fnw Color Multifunction Printer, HP Photosmart 8th Advantage B210a, and the HP Officejet Pro 8500A e-All-in-One Printer. Offering high quality color prints, the HP LaserJet Pro CM1415 Color Multifunction Printer and the HP Officejet Pro 8500A e-All-in-One Printer feature a color touchscreen that allows users to easily manage print, scan, copy and fax requirements. Equipped with the versatile and mobile advantage of HP ePrint, the wireless network enabled HP LaserJet Pro CM1415 Color Multifunction Printer and HP Officejet Pro 8500A e-All-in-One Printer let users enjoy prints when and where they're needed.

CM1415

ASUS recommends Windows 7

ASUS
Inspiring Innovation – Persistent Perfection

N SERIES
HEAR THE POWER · FEEL THE POWER

Tune in to SoundMaster www.asuscreator.asus.com

Visibly Smart

Beware, attack tool kits more accessible says Symantec

Nowadays, to be a bad guy who steals vital information online or compromises a network of PCs doesn't require technological expertise as malicious technologies are easily made available online and deployment of them is also made easier.

In a study conducted by Symantec Corp., attack kits used for cybercrimes are becoming more accessible and easier to use and their implementation is widely increasing.

The trend has attracted traditional criminals who link the industrial expertise into cybercrime activity and this has fuelled a still sustaining, profitable and organized global economy, according to Raymond Dok, Symantec's regional technical director.

Dok said spammers can launch or attack through the use of toolkits, which enable the attacker to easily launch numerous prewritten threats against computer systems. They also provide the ability to customize threats in order to evade detection, as well as automating the attack process.

"Unlike in the past, today's attack toolkits make it relatively easy for even beginners to launch a cyberattack. Therefore we expect to see increased criminal activity in this area and a higher likelihood for the average user to be victimized," said Dok.

Dok said the attack kits, which now feature easy-to-use 'icon driven' user interfaces, are often sold on a subscription-based model with regular updates, enhancements that enhance capabilities, and support services.

Web added cybercriminals advertise installation services, even limited money-back guarantees, and customerized and primary tools to prevent attackers from using the tools as binary pairing.

One example of an attack tool kit is Zeus, which was used by a ring of cybercriminals to create a Zeus botnet (compromised PCs). The cybercriminals, who figured in last year's arrests in the US, were able to get $70 million from online banking and funding accounts over an 18-month period.

The Symantec study also revealed the cost of attack kits are increasing. In 2006, Shadowcrew, a popular attack tool kit, was sold for $53 on the underground economy. In 2008, ZeuS 1.3.6 was advertised for up to $8,000.

Symantec also observed more than 130,000 unique domains that were hosted to be malicious. On average, this resulted in the detection of more than 6.4 malicious web pages per month.

Of the web based threat activity detected by Symantec during the reporting period, 63 percent was attributable to attack kits. The most prevalent attack kits are Mpack, Incognito, ZeuS, Shikotpol P4ck, and Phoenix.

Ways to mitigate the attack include making sure that software is up-to-date with vendor patches. Organizations should educate users to guard access from the use of browser software and browser plug-ins, exposed by the use of controls, which may be installed without the knowledge of the users.

Organizations can also benefit from using website reputation and IP black listing solutions to block outgoing access to sites that are known to host attack toolkits and associated threats.

Antivirus and intrusion prevention systems can also be deployed to detect and prevent exploitation of vulnerabilities and included lists of statistics code. Raquel P. Gamos

Philippine game development industry gets boost from Autodesk

NETDEVIL, Inc., 2D design, engineering and entertainment software provider, raises the expertise of Filipino content creators to the mobile gaming sector as it has recently brought to mobile gaming development veteran and Autodesk Certified Instructor Carl Calderwood. Leveraging on Carl Calderwood's technical expertise in mobile gaming development, Autodesk aims to arm Filipino developers with cutting-edge design solutions and technical know-how. This will enable local talents to create world-class projects that will be played not only here but even abroad. Calderwood has been in the gaming development industry for almost a decade and has made remarkable contributions in this sector. He founded Fun2D – a company that designs and creates games, software games, 2D visualization and art assets for a range of platforms from mobile phones to consoles. He has contributed to upcoming industry technologies in the academia by developing an educational DVD entitled 2D and GameEngine. He also founded the college The Gaming and Animation Institute of Fredericton. Lastly, he helped develop Autodesk's game engine titles like Hexit and Mayalit with Unity. "With the continuing emergence of smart phones in the global market, the demand for quality casual mobile games has increased. This has changed the landscape of 3D mobile gaming worldwide, and the opportunities that this presents to design and content development for has also increased – especially the fast paced development of gaming landscape in many users," says Calderwood. According to Autodesk Philippines Country Manager Teddy D. Yu, this is the most opportune moment that we start harnessing our strategic local talents by giving them the technical knowledge and resources from design technologies from Autodesk to become globally competitive mobile content developers. To also highlighted that Autodesk's design solutions will enable designers and developers create more innovative and immersive gaming experiences with. Autodesk's Digital Entertainment Creation suite, which includes Autodesk 3ds Max, Maya and Mudbox/Softimage and mobile game developers to create high quality and visually engaging animation content for mobile games.

New PIXMA office printers packed with more features

CANON Marketing Philippines, Inc. (CMPI) has introduced its new line-up of PIXMA All-in-One (AIO) and single function business printers at "Don't just print. IMPRINT" product launch at the Cyberzone in SM North Edsa, City Only (Annex).

The five new models - PIXMA MX886, MX456, MP416, MX366 and iX6560 - host a number of new and improved features including expanded wireless capabilities that support the latest IEEE 802.11 n wireless network standard and wireless photo printing from iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch, and Android devices.

They also offer Full HD video printing from Canon digital cameras, improved web printing through Canon's Easy-WebPrint EX software, intelligent color and exposure correction through Auto Photo Fix II, a simplified home screen menu, and exclusive access to Canon's Creative Park Premium content.

Built in class

Driven by individual color ink tanks, the MX886 is capable of sharp printouts at up to 9600 x 2400 dots per inch (dpi), depicting microscopic ink droplets as small as 1 picoliter (pl) and high resolution scans at 2400 x 4800 dpi.

MX886's dual function panel simplifies use by enclosing key functions found on the rear. For instance, navigation keys appear when printing, copying, or scanning while numeric keypad are uncovered when using fax.

Other features include auto duplex printing, photo printing, a high-capacity 30 sheet (Sepia) automatic document feeder (ADF), Super G3 faxing, 2-way paper handling, the capability to scan and password-protect PDF documents via MP Navigator EX software, and a large 3.8 inch LCD screen for easy viewing.

The MX886 also features a new Reserve Copy function, allowing copies to be made to print successes. Finishes users will also enjoy the same basic fax function by inserting the whole album, each increasing the amount to be transferred directly to a flash drive.

More than just the basics

These series brings printing, copying, scanning, and faxing to new heights in an easy to use design.

The MP416 and the Ethernet-capable MP456 are capable of printing a borderless 4 x 6" photo in 42 seconds. They have a fast print speed of approximately 8.7 images per minute (ipm) for monochrome and 5.0 ipm for color documents printed.

Both models offer wireless Wi-Fi connectivity and wireless photo printing from mobile phones and devices. They also feature a 2.5-inch LCD display to provide quick and easy viewing. MP416 and MP456 also support the new Reserve Copy and Auto Save Function for incoming fax.

PIXMA MX366 is a compact printer that can produce borderless 4" x 6" photos in approximately 45 seconds, and performs at approximately 8.4 ipm for monochrome and 4.8 for color document printing.

Featuring loading edge design and incorporating a new self-opening paper output tray, paper jams are prevented if printing starts with the tray closed. Scanning multiple documents is made easy with an integrated high-speed auto Document Feeder, while Super G3 fax technology transmits fax rapidly.

Master of one

Currently the most compact dedicated A3 + office printer to date, the PIXMA iX6560 achieves top-tier print quality and speed at inexpensive rates.

It is capable of printing photos up to A3 + size and producing 9600 x 2400 dpi photos (through microscopic droplets as small as 3pl, producing a borderless 4 x 6" photo print in only 36 seconds.

This printer can achieve print speeds of approximately 11.2 ipm for monochrome and 6.8 ipm for color document printing.

An added bonus for business users is the plethora of customizable business templates and posters which can be downloaded from a website exclusive to iX6560 users.

INQUIRER Wednesday
NATIONAL
CLASSIFIEDS
The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
DEADLINES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2011

Pag-IBIG Fund

INVITATION TO BID

PROVISION OF JANITORIAL AND GENERAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR THE HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND

The Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF), through its Bids and Awards Committee - Goods & Services (BAC-GS) intends to apply the sum of Sixty Four Million Nine Hundred **Sixty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Seven and 68/100 (Php64,965,867.68)** being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) for the this year to payments under the continuing Trust Receipts Agreement of Janitorial and General Services for the Home Development Mutual Fund. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

The HDMF BAC-GS now invites bids for the Provision of Janitorial and General Support Services for the Home Development Mutual Fund. The three-year contract shall take effect in third quarter of 2011. Bidders should have completed, within five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act". Bidding is open to all Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from BAC-GS Secretariat at HDMF and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday starting **April 27, 2011** during office hours.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders starting **April 27, 2011** from the HDMF BAC-GS Secretariat, Room 127, 7th Floor, Pag-IBIG Building, EDSA cor. Mauway St., Mandaluyong City, upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 25,000.00) in the form of cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check payable to HDMF. The Bidding documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) or www.pagibigfund.gov.ph and/or the website of the HDMF at www.pagibigfund.gov.ph, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of bids.

The HDMF BAC-GS will hold a Pre-Bid Conference on **May 6, 2011, 10:00 a.m.** at the Amo Tabunar Hall, Room 602, 6th Floor, Pag-IBIG Building, EDSA cor. Mauway St., Mandaluyong City which shall be open to all interested parties.

Bids must be delivered at the HDMF BAC-GS Secretariat, Room 127, 7th Floor, Pag-IBIG Building, EDSA cor. Mauway St., Mandaluyong City on or before **8:30 a.m. of May 11, 2011**. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in **ITB Clause 18**.

Bid opening shall be on **May 11, 2011, 10:00 a.m.** at the Penthouse, Unit 601, Mezzanine Orchid Road Side, The Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives. Late bids shall not be accepted.

The HDMF BAC-GS reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further inquiries and/or information, please contact/visit: Atty. Emelita S. Rasco or Ana Malcolm, Tels. # 911-0922/724-1973 or visit our Corporate Website.

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
GOODS AND SERVICES

By:

(Sgd.) **EMMA LINDA D. TUNG**
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Support Services Cluster and
Chair, BAC-GS

(PIA) April 27, 2011

Abot-kayang Pabahay para sa Pamilyang Pilipino!!!

Republic of the Philippines
PALAWAN STATE UNIVERSITY
BIDS and AWARDS COMMITTEE
Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

INVITATION TO BID

The Palawan State University through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites contractors registered with and accredited by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to submit their sealed bids for the following:

1. **CONSTRUCTION OF COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE MANAGEMENT & TOURISM AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING CENTER, PUERTO PRINCESA CITY**
   Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC): Php 10,000,000.00
2. **CONSTRUCTION OF COLLEGE OF FISHERIES LABORATORY BUILDING, PHASE II (Technical Facilities), PUERTO PRINCESA CITY**
   Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC): Php 10,000,000.00

Prospective bidders should possess a valid PCAB License appropriate to the contract, have completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents. Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

Bidding is open to all Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from BAC and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders starting **April 27, 2011** from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 25,000.00) in the form of cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check payable to PSU. The Bidding documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) or www.palawanstate.edu.ph and/or the website of the PSU at www.palawanstate.edu.ph, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of bids.

Bid Activities	Schedule
1. Issuance of Bid Documents	April 27, 2011
2. Pre-bid Conference	May 4, 2011 (10:00 AM)
3. Submission of Letters of Intent and Appropriate Eligibility of eligible single proprietorship/corporation/partnership	May 9, 2011 (10:00 AM)
4. Opening of Bids	May 10, 2011 (10:00 AM)
5. Bid Evaluation	May 11, 2011
6. Post-qualification	May 24, 2011
7. Notice of Award	May 31, 2011

The Palawan State University reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any formality therein, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the government. In case of tie, the PSU shall apply the provisions of Section 32.2.4 of the Revised IRR of RA 9184.

Bid opening shall be on **May 10, 2011, 10:00 a.m.** at the Palawan State University Bids and Awards Committee Office, Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives. Late bids shall not be accepted.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) **MARILYN G. PANGAN**
BAC Chairman

(PIA) April 27, 2011

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

ARAFAT POBLACION
CEDAR MANSION

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

ROLEX
LOUIS VUITTON

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

HOME/TOWNHOUSE

LOAN & MORTGAGE

NOTICE OF LOSS

Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT CARAGA
Butuan City

INVITATION TO SEEK/REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Department of Health – Caraga, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites supplemental/complementary service providers to apply for eligibility and to submit the renewal as project.

Name of Project:	RENEWAL FOR CATERING SERVICES AND BOARD & LODGING FOR TRAINEES AND STAFF
Location:	1. AGUSAN (DEL NOR) 2. AGUSAN (DEL SUR) 3. SURIGAO CITY 4. SURIGAO (DEL NORTE) SITH-Center for Health Development - Caraga
Approved Budget for the Contract:	AGUSAN DEL SUR – Php. 333,333.00 SURIGAO DEL SUR – 333,333.00 SURIGAO CITY – 1,333,333.00 SURIGAO DEL NORTE – 333,333.00
Funding Information:	

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures, using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 9184 known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Only Bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section V. Instruction to Bidders in the Bidding Documents.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-Bidding Conference(s), Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification, Award of Contract shall be governed by the provisions/guidelines of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed as follows:

	Activities	Schedule
1.	Issuance of Bid Documents	May 5, 2011
2.	Pre-bid Conference	May 6, 2011 (10:00 AM)
3.	Submission of Letters of Intent and Appropriate Eligibility of eligible single proprietorship/corporation/partnership	May 9, 2011 (10:00 AM)
4.	Opening of Bids	May 10, 2011 (10:00 AM)
5.	Bid Evaluation	May 11, 2011
6.	Post-qualification	May 24, 2011
7.	Notice of Award	May 31, 2011

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Five Hundred Pesos (Php. 500.00) to the Department of Health – Center for Health Development – Caraga, Cabadbaran.

The Department of Health – Center for Health Development – Caraga reserves its responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of bids.

Approved by:

(Sgd.) **EVANGELINA B. TOLENTINO, DPA, M.D.**
Bids Chairperson

(PIA) April 27, 2011

Message for the Philippine Society of Fellows Diplomates in People Management Investiture
27 April 2011

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate, on behalf of the People Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP), the twenty-one esteemed men and women being conferred the title diplomate in People Management (DPM) by the Philippine Society of Fellows (SOF). The distinguished recipients affirm their status as peers in the field of people management and worthy recipient of the human resource management profession.

My warm greetings also go out to the SOF for its continued effort to raise the standards of people management in the country.

Again my sincerest congratulations to:

1. Ms. Enrique V. Abadesco Jr., DPM
2. Atty. Pilar Narcisa P. Abrina, DPM
3. Mr. Rafael L. Abrina, DPM
4. Ms. Erlinda D. Cardin, DPM
5. Ms. Oscar L. Cordero Jr., DPM
6. Ms. Sofia V. Decenio, DPM
7. Ms. Soledad Dapar, DPM
8. Mr. Luzviminda B. Fajardo, DPM
9. Mr. Ramon J. Fernandez, DPM
10. Mr. Rodolfo N. Gamoso, DPM
11. Mr. Rene B. Ibanez, DPM
12. Mr. Bonifacio G. Jo, DPM
13. Mr. Jimmy M. Jopia, DPM
14. Mr. Renato L. Lim, DPM
15. Mr. Ferdinand R. Olampos, DPM
16. Mr. Marlon D. Molina, DPM
17. Atty. Renato F. Reyes, DPM
18. Atty. Rene Y. Saneta, DPM
19. Ms. Lucila C. Tafalla, DPM
20. Ms. Rosario S. Ventura, DPM
21. Atty. Cecilia S. Villanueva, DPM
22. Ms. Teresita A. Villanueva, DPM

Mabuhay!

(Sgd.) **Mr. Salvador Caesar C. Aurelio**
President
People Management Association of the Philippines

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Nueva Ecija
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT OF ESPERANZA
and
MAGKAISA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM II

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in the amount of Seventeen Million Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars ($17,700,000.00) to cover the cost of the Magkaisa Rural Development Program II and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan for the Contract for Civil Works.
2. The **Municipality of Esperanza** now invites sealed bids for the Construction of Agricultural Infrastructure Facilities (Farm to Market Roads) under the Magkaisa Rural Development Program II (Esperanza Cluster). The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) is **Php 4,000,000.00**.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.
4. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Bidding is open to all Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subject to Commonwealth Act 138.
5. The procurement requirements of the Bidding Documents shall not be published and shall be furnished to prospective bidders at no cost.
6. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Bidders Secretariat and may inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting **May 27, 2011** from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 25,000.00) in the form of cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check payable to the Municipality of Esperanza. The Bidding documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.
8. It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) or www.esperanza.gov.ph and/or the website of the Magkaisa Rural Development Program II at www.magkaisa.gov.ph, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of bids.
9. The Municipality of Esperanza reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any formality therein, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the government. In case of tie, the LGU shall apply the provisions of Section 32.2.4 of the Revised IRR of RA 9184.
10. Bid opening shall be on **June 27, 2011, 10:00 a.m.** at the Municipal Hall, Esperanza, Agusan del Sur. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives. Late bids shall not be accepted.
11. The Municipality of Esperanza reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any formality therein, and to accept the bid most advantageous to the government. In case of tie, the LGU shall apply the provisions of Section 32.2.4 of the Revised IRR of RA 9184.
12. The Municipality of Esperanza assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of bids. The LGU shall not be responsible for any loss or damage to the bid documents after the bid opening.
13. Bidders must have completed, within five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents, particularly, in Section II. Instructions to Bidders.
14. Bidders should have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.
15. Bidders must have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.
16. Bidders must have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.
17. Bidders must have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.
18. Bidders must have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.
19. Bidders must have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.
20. Bidders must have the following minimum requirements: Financial Capacity: Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) of at least Php 4,000,000.00; Experience: Completed a similar contract with a value of at least fifty (50) of the ABC, and meet the requirements and other conditions specified in the Bidding Documents.

MAY TRABAHO DITO
For advertisers, inquire about the Job Market package at 897-8008 loc. 514
You can now checkout more jobs from INQUIRER Libre

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region III
DIVISION OF CITY/ADMO
Angeles / Mabalacat City

Project No. 002-2011

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Education intends to apply the sum of Philippine Pesos One Hundred Six Million One Hundred Forty Two Thousand Fifty Four and 00/100 (Php 106,142,054.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to complete under the contracts for the items described below for the various schools in the Division of CITY/ADMO as follows:

Cluster 1: ABC=Php4,008,991.20
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Pulungmasle Annex ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Cutud Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolores ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Sapalibutad ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Lakandula Elementary School

Cluster 2: ABC= Php4,952,533.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Balibaguhan ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mabalacat-East ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mabalacat-West ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Tabacum ES

Cluster 3: ABC=Php4,952,533.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mitablan I, Hinukay ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mitablan II ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Lt. Tito Valencia ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Poblacion ES

Cluster 4: ABC=Php4,952,533.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Bamban ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Santa Ines ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Puraran ES

Cluster 5: ABC=Php3,963,227.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Brgy. Cutcut ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolores (Int'l Annex - Pogonippon) ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mamatitan North - Kangkaliman ES

Cluster 6: ABC=Php3,971,946.00
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Balubad ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolores ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Lakandula ES

Cluster 7: ABC=Php4,764,681.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Bamban ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dingalan ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Pampanguito ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Lacquio ES

Cluster 8: ABC=Php4,764,681.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mabiga ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mabuhay ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Poblacion ES

Cluster 9: ABC=Php4,971,946.00
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Bundagul ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dau ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Pampanguito NHS - New Cutcut Annex
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Tabun ES

Cluster 10: ABC=Php3,945,601.20
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Malabo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Sapalibutad ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolorosa ES

Cluster 11: ABC=Php4,952,533.60
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Malabo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Sapalibutad ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolorosa ES

Cluster 12: ABC=Php3,945,601.20
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Malabo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Sapalibutad ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolorosa ES

Cluster 13: ABC=Php4,726,681.20
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Malabo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Sapalibutad ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Dolorosa ES

Cluster 14: ABC=Php4,971,946.00
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Central Malabo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Rubiacan ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Bundagul ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Bundagul ES

Cluster 15: ABC=Php4,726,681.20
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Buhilit ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Bundagul ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Pinatubo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mawacat ES

Cluster 16: ABC=Php4,726,681.20
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Flordeliz - Sapalaran Annex
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Gelo ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Mabini ES
Construction of One (1) Unit One Storey Two Classroom School Building at Poblacion ES

Cluster 17: ABC=Php 4,208,992.80
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Acacia Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Balubad-East Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Naguilla Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Lomboy Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Talimundoc Elementary School

Cluster 18: ABC=Php 4,018,648.80
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Holy Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Pasa Proper Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Sapalibutad Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Dominican Hideaway High School

Cluster 19: ABC=Php 4,018,648.80
Construction of Two (2) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Mawacat High School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Sheilas Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Balubad-Integrated High School

Cluster 20: ABC=Php 3,873,696.80
Construction of One (1) Unit One (1) Classroom School Building at Mabiga-Kapa Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit One (1) Classroom School Building at Bical Norte Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Bical Sur Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Three (3) Classrooms School Building at Magsaysay NHS - Bulaon Annex

Cluster 21: ABC=Php 3,823,648.80
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at San Nicolas Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Lubao Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Baruya Elementary School

Cluster 22: ABC=Php 3,536,208.40
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Sitio Island Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Agustin Dolores Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Kabayuan Elementary School

Cluster 23: ABC=Php 3,600,096.00
Construction of Two (2) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Sapang Balitoc High School
Repair of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Mabalas Integrated High School

Cluster 24: ABC=Php 4,060,096.80
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Basa-Aumoonang Dungguan Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Mountainview ES - New Balubad Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Dolores Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Kalog Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (1) Classroom School Building at Magsaysay Primary School

Cluster 25: ABC=Php 3,873,696.80
Construction of One (1) Unit One (1) Classroom School Building at Bamban Primary School
Construction of One (1) Unit One (1) Classroom School Building at Diamantino High School
Construction of One (1) Unit Three (3) Classrooms School Building at Pinto Primary School - Dapdap Annex

Cluster 26: ABC=Php 3,951,696.80
Construction of One (1) Unit One (1) Classroom School Building at Mount Diamantino Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit One (1) Classroom School Building at Lubao Elementary School
Construction of One (1) Unit Two (2) Classrooms School Building at Sapang Balitoc Elementary School

The Department of Education COMBAT2 DIVISION, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), now invites bids for the above mentioned works. Bids received that exceed the ABC shall be rejected at bid opening. Bidder may do for one or all items. Late/incomplete bids shall not be accepted. Evaluation and award shall be made on cluster basis.

Prospective bidders who have completed a similar contract within the last five (5) years from date of submission and receipt of bids and meet the minimum requirements may purchase the Bid Documents for Php5,000.00.

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens / sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) citizens or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and subsequent amendments under RA 7898.

Upon completion Bidding will be conducted using the non-discretionary pass/fail criterion, evaluation and post-qualification procedure as described in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. 9184. More information is also available at www.deped.gov.ph / www.deped.net.

Activity	Date and Time	Venue
Issuance of Bid Documents	April 28 to May 12, 2011 / 8:00am to 5:00pm	Supply Division Bids Office
Pre-Bid Conference	April 29, 2011 - 10:00am	Conference Hall - Div. Training Center
Submission and Opening of Bids	May 13, 2011 - 10:00am	Conference Hall - Div. Training Center

The Bidding Documents may be requested or purchased at the address previously indicated, upon presentation/submitting a duly-filled-out application letter and payment in cash or in manager's/cashier's check in the amount of Philippine Peso/ Pesos Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000.00) only as indicated above. It may be viewed at the website of the Procuring Entity.

Only Bidders who have purchased the Bidding Documents shall be allowed to participate in the bidding process. Bidders should have no derogatory records with the Procuring Entity and/or the Philippine Government. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to declare the bidding process as unsuccessful, or to waive any minor defect in any bid received without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidders.

(Sgd.) ERNESTO D. ANGELES, JR.
Head, Supply Division / Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
BAC Chairperson

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Department of Tourism, through its Special Bids and Awards Committee (SBAC), invites interested consultants to submit their expressions of eligibility documents and proposals to render consulting services for the following project:

Name of Project:	Development, Maintenance, Online Marketing and Promotions of the Philippine Department of Tourism Website
Brief Description:	Consultancy to undertake the development, maintenance and promotions of the Philippine Department of Tourism Website
Approved Budget for the Contract:	Twenty Million Pesos (P20,000,000.00)
Contract Duration:	Three (3) years

Interested consultants may obtain further information and inspect the Expression of Interest Documents at the address given below during normal office hours. Consultants' detailed curriculum vitae, including all eligible consultants and their experts, shall be submitted in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) procedures described in the Expression of Interest Documents.

A single set of Expression of Interest Documents may be purchased by interested consultants upon payment of the non-refundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) to the Cashier's Office, Department of Tourism, Rizal Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Metro Manila.

Expressions of Interest must be submitted to the SBAC Secretariat at the address given below on or before 10:00 a.m. of 11 May 2011. Late submissions will not be accepted. Expressions of Interest will be opened immediately after the deadline in the presence of the consultants' representatives who wish to attend the opening. Consultants may be represented by duly authorized officials.

For further information, please refer to:

Name of Contact Person:	Ms. Ma. Cristina Roxas
Address:	4th Floor, Tourism Promotions Board Building, Rizal Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Metro Manila
Telephone Number:	(632) 459-5200
Fax Number:	(632) 459-5200
Email Address:	mcroxas@tourism.gov.ph

(Sgd.) ANTONIO M. LAGDAMEO, III
Chairman, Special Bids and Awards Committee

Activities	Schedule
1 Issuance of Invitation to Bid and Eligibility Documents	April 28 to May 11, 2011 / 8:00am to 5:00pm, and 1:00pm to 5:00pm
2 Pre-Bid Conference	10:00am, May 3 (Tue), 2011, Today, 10th Floor, Dr. Arcadio Santos Avenue, Taguig City, Metro Manila
3 Deadline for Submission and Opening of Eligibility Requirements	10:00am, May 11 (Wed), 2011, Today, 10th Floor, Dr. Arcadio Santos Avenue, Taguig City, Metro Manila
4 Opening of Bidders' Technical Proposals	10:00am, May 12 (Thu), 2011, Today, 10th Floor, Dr. Arcadio Santos Avenue, Taguig City, Metro Manila
5 Opening of Bidders' Financial Proposals	10:00am, May 13 (Fri), 2011, Today, 10th Floor, Dr. Arcadio Santos Avenue, Taguig City, Metro Manila
6 Bidder's Presentation	May 16, 2011
7 Issuance of Notice of Award	May 17, 2011
8 Issuance of Notice to Proceed	May 18, 2011
9 Submission of Performance Bond	10:00am, May 19, 2011, Today, 10th Floor, Dr. Arcadio Santos Avenue, Taguig City, Metro Manila
10 Signing of Contract	10:00am, May 20, 2011, Today, 10th Floor, Dr. Arcadio Santos Avenue, Taguig City, Metro Manila
11 Commencement of Project	May 23, 2011
12 Completion of Project	2 years from the date of commencement

The Bidders are encouraged to submit their bids in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes, duly signed by the Bidder or his duly authorized representative, and must be received by the SBAC Secretariat at the address given above on or before 10:00 a.m. of 11 May 2011. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids will be opened immediately after the deadline in the presence of the bidders' representatives who wish to attend the opening. Bidders may be represented by duly authorized officials.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in the form of a manager's check, cashier's check, bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable bank, or a surety bond callable on demand, in favor of the Department of Tourism, Rizal Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, Metro Manila, in the amount of Four Hundred Thousand Pesos (P400,000.00), which shall be valid for 120 calendar days from the date of the opening of bids.

Bidders must submit the following documents to establish their eligibility:

1. Valid and current Mayor's/Business Permit issued by the city or municipality where the principal place of business of the prospective bidder is located;
2. Valid and current Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) License and Registration for the type and cost of the contract to be bidded;
3. Audited financial statements, stamped "received" by the Bureau of Internal Revenue or its duly accredited and authorized institutions, for the preceding calendar year;
4. Net financial contracting capacity (NFCC) computation sheet, which must be at least equal to the ABC;
5. Tax clearance per Executive Order 398, Series of 2005, as finally reviewed and approved by the Bureau of Internal Revenue;
6. Statement of all its ongoing and completed contracts, including contracts awarded but not yet started, if any, within the last five (5) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, which should be at least equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the ABC;
7. Statement of the bidder's Single Largest Completed Contract (SLCC) similar to the contract to be bidded, which should be at least equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the ABC;
8. Statement of the bidder's key personnel, including their qualifications and experience, who will be assigned to the contract;
9. Statement of the bidder's financial capability to undertake the project (e.g., credit line from a reputable bank, net worth, etc.);
10. Statement of the bidder's construction schedule and manpower deployment plan for the contract to be bidded; and
11. Statement of the bidder's organizational chart for the contract to be bidded.

Bidders shall provide adequate and effective bid security, such as cash, cashier's/manager's check, bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a reputable bank, or surety bond callable upon demand, in the amount of two percent (2%) of the ABC, which shall be valid for 120

The JVA Group of Companies
mourns the passing of its
Founder and Chairman of the Board

ATTY. JESUS "CHITO" VELOSO AYALA

who peacefully returned to his Creator
on April 29, 2011 at the age of 82.

He is survived by his wife, **Fe**, children: **Mike** and **Gauss**, **Lani** and **Mark**, **Ann Marie**, **Raffy** and **Ayumi**, grandchildren: **Cesca**, **Pimee**, **Andress**, **Mayumi**, **Uno**, **Jaco**, **JJ** and **Ryu**, sister, **Teresita Ayala Barcelon**, and sisters-in-law, **Tita Lacambra Ayala** and **Minetta Imperial Ayala**.

His cremated remains will be present at the Ateneo High School, Serendra Garden, Loyola Heights, Quezon City on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 3 pm to 9 pm, during which an Anticipated Mass and a memorial service will be held at 5:30 pm.

A donation to Chito's favorite charity, Kauswagan sa Timogang Mindanao Foundation, Inc. (BDO S/A 860282023), would be appreciated in lieu of flowers.

For more information, please contact
Ms. Mila Guerrero at 816-2931 or 0920-9550838

CLASSIFIEDS

P-noy to address delegates to 32nd Nat'l Conference of Employers

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE IS EXPECTED TO make policy announcements relative to promoting awareness of employers—both corporate, labor-law reforms and governing businesses—when he addresses delegates to the 32nd National Conference of Employers (NCE 32).

President Benigno S. Aquino III will grace the 32nd National Conference of Employers (NCE 32) called on May 4-6, at the Manila Hotel, Roxas City, as Guest of Honor and Closing Speaker.

Anchored on the theme, "Injunctive and Employment" the forty-two, the National Conference will dwell on issues that affect employers, its relations with social partners and the business environment in general, according to ECOP President Edgardo B. Lanzon. Organized by the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP), NCE 32 is chaired by Jesus B. Varela.

Among the major sponsors of the National Conference are Philippine Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Magsaysay Corp., ISM Investments Corp., Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Inc., FJ Elizalde Co., Inc., Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co., PAGCOR, Philippine Economic Zone Authorities, Inc. (Philexport), I-Remit, Inc., Jollibee Food Corp., Social Security System (SSS), Pag-IBIG Fund, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., Toyota Motor Philippines Corp., Philippine Business Bank, Walter Group of Companies, ECT Colleges Foundation, Inc., Isuzu Philippines, Inc., Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Philippine Association of Information Technology, Inc. (PAITH), GATUAlliance, Inc., Chamber of Mines of the Philippines, MIS Maritime Corp., PLDT-SMC, Aces Global, Inc., San Miguel Corp., Subic Import and Export Development Association, Inc., Subic Iwasi Shipping Agency Co., Inc., and Basanes Environmental Management Systems. The Conference invites partners as Philippine Daily Inquirer, Basanes-Nolyal, and Manila Bulletin.

Discussions in the Conference will focus on "Sustaining Growth and Employment," "Growth Through Labor Market Reforms," "Emerging Global Best Practices," "Towards a More Pro-active Legislative Labor Agenda," and Business Development and Relationship."

DOUBLE YOUR COLLECTION EFFICIENCY

It is Time To Improve Your Collection and Cash Flow

Module 1
Strengthening Your Collection Focus and Processes

Module 2
Collection Strategies and Tactics

RICKY DE VERA

SEMINAR INVESTMENT

POWERMAX CONSULTING GROUP INC.

"Now I am about to go the way of all the earth. You know with all your heart and soul that not one of all the good promises the LORD your God gave you has failed. Every promise has been fulfilled; not one has failed."
– Joshua 23:14

Maria Joy Arreglado Arreglado

TIODULFO and **JEVA**
RHEA and **RONALD**
RONA and **MIKE**, and **LUIS**
ANGEL, **NATHAN**, **RHEANA** and **MIGUEL**

Message of Thanks

LEA N. BERNADAS – PLAZA

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS

95th Annual Communication
THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF THE PHILIPPINES
DAVAO CONVENTION AND TRADE CENTER · APRIL 29-30, 2011

ANCOM
DAVAO 2011

Concise History of Freemasonry in the Philippines

By: VW Constantino V. Calderon, Jr.

SMART
PHOENIX
Coca-Cola
SMIS